

**INVESTIGATING IMPEDIMENTS TO PARENTAL PREVENTION  
OF TEENAGE PREGNANCIES IN NAROK-NORTH SUB-  
COUNTY, NAROK COUNTY, KENYA**

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## DECLARATION

This Thesis is my original work and has not been presented for an award of a degree in this or any other University.

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## **DEDICATION**

This Thesis is dedicated to my father for his financial assistance and unwavering support.

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## ABSTRACT

Teenage pregnancy is detrimental to the wellbeing of the girl child because of its negative impact on health, social and educational outcomes. Parents may encounter challenges that prevent them from helping their girls in preventing pregnancies. This study therefore investigated impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya. The study assessed parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies, determined Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies, and examined parental socio-cultural status on prevention of teenage pregnancies. The study utilized Social Network Theory. Descriptive cross-sectional survey design directed the study. Target population of the research was 59,996 families in Narok-North Sub- County. Snowball sampling was applied to obtain a sample size of 165 biological parents from the target population. Simple random sampling was applied to get 10 main respondents who were teenage girls that had fallen pregnant. Data was collected using questionnaires and Interview schedules. Validity and reliability of the tools comprising parental awareness, Parenting strategy and parental socio-cultural status was ensured at a coefficient of .92, .81 and .85 respectively. Data was computed by the use of SPSS version 26.0 and transcripts from interviews were analyzed thematically from the data. On parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies, parental awareness had moderate and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy (at  $P$ -value $<.05$  Mean  $r = .52$ ) the level of parental awareness on teenage pregnancy moderately and positively influenced prevention of teenage pregnancy. The study established that 48 (30.4%) parents agreed that giving Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to teenage girls reduces cases of teenage pregnancy. However, 44.8% of parents disagreed on taking responsibility for implementation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Education. On Parenting strategy on prevention of teenage pregnancy there was enough statistical evidence (at  $P$  value $<.05$  Mean  $r = .45$ ) showing Parenting strategy had a low and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy. On parental Socio-Cultural status, significant association and very strong positive correlation was seen between the parental socio – cultural status and prevention of teenage pregnancy (at  $P$  value  $<.05$  Mean  $r = .54$ ) showing that there was statistically significant pattern of influence of parental socio – cultural status on prevention of teenage pregnancy. 82.6% of respondents endorsed that Cultural norms may encourage early marriages. The Study recommends that The Directorate of Children’s Services to provide age appropriate materials that guide parents on how to implement Home Based Sexual and Reproductive Health Education. The Study recommends to the Directorate of Children’s services to upscale forums in Narok North Sub County where parents and teens communicate candidly on sexuality by having them as after school programs in line with the National Plan of Action for Children framework (2008-2012). The Study recommends to the Ministry of Health to set up implementation of the National Plan of Action on Adolescents and Teenage Pregnancy of 2019 aimed at intensifying community workshops that create awareness among parents on cultural norms that predispose teenage girls to pregnancies.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

CHV	:	Community Health Volunteer
INEE	:	Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies
KNBS	:	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
NACOSTI	:	National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation
NCCK	:	National Council of Churches in Kenya
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organization
NCPD	:	National Centre of Population and Development
SUPKEM	:	Supreme Council of Muslims in Kenya
UK	:	United Kingdom
UNESCO	:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	:	United Nations Population Fund
USA	:	United States of America
WHO	:	World Health Organization
SRH	:	Sexual and Reproductive Health

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

<b>Adolescent</b>	This is the child aged between 13 to 17 years old that has started displaying physical signs of physical maturity but is not yet fully matured.
<b>Child</b>	A child is a human being who is below 18 years of age and is physically, psychologically and financially immature to start a family.
<b>Cultural Norms</b>	This is the way the society that the parents belong to handles issues involving the prevention of teenage pregnancy.
<b>Harsh Parenting</b>	The parent relates to the teenage girl in a hostile and uncompromising way.
<b>Impediments</b>	These are the limitations on awareness, Parenting strategy and socio-cultural norms that keep parents from effectively preventing pregnancies
<b>Orphan</b>	A child whose parents are not present due to death.
<b>Parental Awareness</b>	This is the parent's knowledge as seen through their understanding on the nature of teenage pregnancy and how to help their girls avoid it.
<b>Parental Impediments</b>	Challenges parents may face in awareness, Parenting strategy and socio-culturally in their attempt at helping their teenage girls avoid pregnancies.
<b>Parental Socio-Cultural Background</b>	This is the parent's societal status as seen through wealth and cultural norms that guide the parents' response towards prevention of teenage pregnancy.
<b>Parenting strategy</b>	How parents relate to their girls, it entails communication, correction and availability to the child.
<b>Sexual and Reproductive Health Education</b>	Parental guidance to their teenage girls on sexual reproductive health issues and potential risks to be cautious of.
<b>Teenage Pregnancy</b>	A child aged between thirteen and seventeen years conceiving.

<b>Teenager</b>	A child aged between thirteen and seventeen years.
<b>Unemployed</b>	A biological parent who is not engaged in any income generating activity that sustains the household.
<b>Vulnerable Child</b>	An individual aged less than 18 years who is more predisposed to various forms of abuse on account of their physical, social, economic and cultural background.
<b>Warm Parenting</b>	The parent relates to the child in a supportive, understanding and accommodative way.
<b>Wealth</b>	This is the parent's resources as seen through level of income that help in the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.0 Introduction

This chapter comprises the background of the study that highlights parental impediments on awareness, Parenting strategy and socio-cultural background have manifested in teenage pregnancies across the world, and why teenage pregnancy is considered a problem. The chapter also contains the purpose of the study, specific objectives of the study, research questions, justification, significance, scope and assumptions of the study. The chapter introduces the main aspects of the study that give an outline of what the researcher intends to investigate.

### 1.1 Background to the Study

Teenage pregnancy in this study is defined as the conception of a child by a girl aged between thirteen and seventeen years. Parents are mandated to bear responsibility over their children who fall below 18 years by law according to the Kenya Childrens' Act (2022) on parental responsibility. Parents have the role of nurturing teenage girls on social and cultural principles concerning close and sexual relationships but this is not happening due to issues regarding parental awareness (Kamangu et al., 2017), Parenting strategy between parents and their teenage girls and parental socio-cultural background of the parent, all essential in molding the child's outcome (Archambault, 2011).

UNICEF (2021) revealed that, 52 out of every 1000 girls aged between 15 and 19 in the United States gave birth, while the United Kingdom topped the list in Europe and came second overall with just over 30 births in 1000 teenagers. The survey however fails to highlight the parenting impediments faced in trying to curb teenage pregnancies yet



parents are key stakeholders in a teenage girl's life by virtue of their close proximity and guardianship role.

Results from a study by Plan International (2021) on early and forced marriages in 14 Asian countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam) where the Plan International Asia Regional Office has an operational presence, revealed that the high rate of teenage pregnancies early marriages destroys the lives of thousands of teenage girls across Asia. Teenage pregnancies resulting from early marriages seriously affect and destabilize the fundamental wellbeing and health, while exposing teenage girls to extreme violence and denying them their basic rights. The study attributes teenage pregnancy to early marriages but fails to look at the variables in the parent's life that may compel them to subscribe to the practice of marrying off their teenage girls..

Findings by South African Demographic and Health Survey (2016) reveal that teenage pregnancy in South Africa is at 30% of all pregnancies nationwide. Panday et al. (2014) found that very low parental supervision, increasing teenage delinquency, sexual deviance and moral decay. The study has however not looked at the impediments parents may be facing in their effort to curb teenage pregnancies.

The National Population Commission through the Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2018) revealed that teenage pregnancies in Nigeria stood at 22.9%. This has been reported to occur predominantly in the Islamic society of Kano, Nigeria where most cases occur due to early marriages arising from households subscribing to the cultural practice. In Burundi, French (2019) in a study on how the "Joint Program" Involvement may reduce teenage pregnancy, found that 8.3% of teenage

girls were childbearing as a result of poor parental supervision. These studies attribute the high incidence of teenage pregnancy to cultural practices adhered to by the parents and poor parental supervision. The studies however fail to investigate the constraints parents may be facing in these respective situations.

The WHO: African Health Observatory (2019) found that the percentage of teenage girls who have had a child or are pregnant is 27% in Tanzania Mainland, more than three times higher than in Zanzibar which was at 8%. Te Lindert et al. (2021) in his research on insights of dynamics leading to early pregnancy in Lindi region of Tanzania, noted that the high incidence resulted from lack of individual choice (peer pressure, low decisiveness, strength, and defilement); longing to make money and escape destitution; dropping out of school adding to becoming pregnant; absence of money, resources, psychological, or emotional support from the society; and restricted access to contraception. The study looked into the teenage girl's individual agency challenges, it however did not look into the parent's role in the life of the teenage girl and the challenges the parent may have faced in trying to prevent pregnancies among their teenage daughters.

UNFPA (2021) noted that teenage pregnancy rate in Uganda was very high registering 354,736 pregnancies in 2020. The UNFPA survey revealed that high poverty level neighborhoods were most affected. The study however fails to reflect how wealth status may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

According to the National Council for Population and Development, (2021), Kenya adds to the international rates of teenage pregnancy because 103 out of 1000 pregnancies (10.3%) is attributed to teenage girls which is above the average

international pregnancy rate among girls in the same age bracket which is at 4.9 %. The incidence of teenage pregnancy according to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019) revealed that forty percent (40%) of adolescent girls aged between 15 to 19 years in Narok County fell pregnant; almost double the national level.

Findings by the United Nations Population Fund, a subsidiary to the World Health Organization (WHO, 2019), indicates that almost 378,400 teenage girls in Kenya between ages 10 to 19 years were pregnant between the month of July 2016 and June 2017. Furthermore, 28,932 teenage girls between ages 10 to 14 years were pregnant, while those between 15 to 19 years were 349,465 in number.

Trends and determinants of adolescent pregnancy from Kenya Demographic Health Surveys as reviewed by Mutea et al. (2022), indicated that between 2003 and 2014, Homa Bay County posted 33% teenage pregnancies, West Pokot County 29% Tana River County and Nyamira County both stood at 28%. Topping the list was Narok County at 40% as a result of the cultural practices of female genital mutilation and early marriage in the County being the main predisposing factors exposing teenagers to pregnancies. Narok North Sub County is most affected in Narok County as a result of socio-cultural factors, economic factors and poor educational status (Lemein, 2017)

The studies and surveys investigate the high incidences of teenage pregnancy but fail to look into impediments faced by parents in the prevention of teenage pregnancies. Parents, because of the obligation given to them by the Kenya Children's Act (2022) on parental responsibility and also on account of their close proximity to the teenage girls, are meant to play a big role in the teenage girl's life. It is against this

background that the study seeks to investigate the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Teenage pregnancy is a major challenge. This is evidenced through findings by Plan International (2023) that revealed 3.9 million unsafe abortions occur each year among teenage girls. The Kenya National Council for Population and Development (2016) revealed that, 1 in every 5 teenage girls has either fallen pregnant or given birth. Ideally, parents are supposed to guide their teenage girls on their sexuality and responsible relationships. This is because parents by law bear guardianship over their children who fall below 18 years according to the Kenya Childrens' Act (2022) on parental responsibility. Pregnancy should occur after the attainment of the legal childbearing age without interfering with the girl's studies or causing any complications at birth. Despite parental counsel, teenage pregnancies are still taking place. This prevalence suggests that there could be limitations in the prevention of teenage pregnancy. Among the top 5 counties, KNBS (2019) revealed that Narok County has the highest (40%) teenage pregnancy rate among adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 years, followed by Homa Bay County (33%), West Pokot County (29%) Tana River County and Nyamira County both stand at 28%. Due to the health, social, economic and psychological implications of teenage pregnancy, this high prevalence could have dire consequences on socio-economic development in Kenya. There is absence of studies on impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies. Investigating parental impediments to prevention of teenage pregnancies will give valuable insight because according to UNICEF (2021) parents' closeness to the teenage girls is considered key in shaping the

teenage girl's life. The study therefore sought to investigate the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya.

### **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

To investigate the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya.

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

The study was guided by the following objectives:

1. To assess the influence of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County.
2. To determine the influence of Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County.
3. To examine the influence of parental socio-cultural status on prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

1. How strongly does parental awareness influence prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County?
2. To what extent does Parenting strategy influence prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County?
3. How intensely does parental socio-cultural status influence prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County?

## **1.6 Justification of the Study**

Sub-Saharan African countries have some of the highest rates of Teenage Pregnancies in the world (Human Rights Watch, 2018). This causes 18.5 million affected teenage girls in Sub-Saharan Africa to drop out of school due to stigma and isolation from their peers (UNESCO, 2018). It has also been found that teenage girls are not psychologically prepared for childbearing (Dare et al., 2016). Moreover, they are neither financially stable nor physically mature to bear children and this causes future health problems for them (Darroch et al., 2016). With parents close proximity to the teenage girls and them being considered as the primary caregivers as outlined in The Kenya Children's Act (2022) on parental responsibilities, they need to be able to assist their teenage girls avoid pregnancies till they attain the legal childbearing age. The study therefore intends to research on the impediments that may invalidate parental efforts in the prevention of teenage pregnancies among their daughters in Narok-North Sub-County.

## **1.7 Significance of the Study**

The study may be helpful to parents and teenage girls because it will give feasible ways to prevent teenage pregnancies. This will be made possible by the findings from the study on how to tackle the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies. This will enable the teenagers to avoid health complications and complete their schooling.

The study may add more knowledge to the already existing knowledge on prevention of teenage pregnancies. It will be instrumental in the aspect of tackling teenage pregnancies through the parents' perspective.

It may give policy recommendations on how to increase the efficiency of efforts to reduce teenage pregnancies. This will be backed by concrete data. The recommendations will help government ministries, government agencies and civil society get a clear road map in the adjustments needed within the policy framework to reduce the high incidence of teenage pregnancies.

### **1.8 Scope and limitations of the Study**

Study was confined to Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County in Kenya. The study was limited to Snowball sampling as the most appropriate sampling method for a Descriptive cross sectional survey design as recommended by (Parker et al., 2019). It was conducted among families affected by teenage pregnancy; data was collected from 165 main respondents who were biological parents to teenage girls who had given birth or fallen pregnant, and from 10 key informants who were teenage girls who had given birth or fallen pregnant. Study was limited to the topic and three specific objectives of the study. It was guided by Social Network Theory and Descriptive cross sectional survey design. The study was conceived and conducted between from 2019 to 2021.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter discusses literature reviewed as per the specific objectives; the assessment of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies, to determine the influence of Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies and examine influence of parental Socio-Cultural status on prevention of teenage pregnancies. The chapter also discusses Social Network Theory propounded by Georg Simmel. The chapter also has conceptual framework that conceives how the independent and dependent variables interact as highlighted in the sub-topics.

#### **2.1 Parental Awareness on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancies**

The study defined Parental awareness as the parent's knowledge on the nature of teenage pregnancy and how to help their girls avoid it. This entails their knowledge on issues surrounding Sexual and Reproductive Health Education and available support systems.

A research on families and Sexual and Reproductive Health Education by Dyson and Smith (2012) done in America, revealed that many parents view Sexual and Reproductive Health Education as their duty, with Sexual and Reproductive Health Education in school as simply supplementary. The study highlights how parents have embraced Sexual and Reproductive Health Education as a force of transformation. Similar findings were observed by Wisnieski et al. (2015) who did a study in America focusing on parent and family impact on teenagers' romantic and sexual choices



and recommended sex educators to promote and encourage parents to discuss relationship and sexual issues with teenagers as a means to prevention of teenage pregnancies. These findings however differ with findings from a study done in Hong Kong China by Leung et al. (2019) who researched on the development of contextually-relevant Sexual and Reproductive Health education; they found that there are numerous disparities and insufficiencies in parental education on pregnancy prevention rendering it an ineffective method of ensuring positive outcome for teenage girls. The findings by the researchers may be attributed to the difference in cultural context between the USA and China on the sensitive nature of Sexual and Reproductive Health education. However, aside from the parents' willingness to conduct the Sexual and Reproductive Health Education, the studies have failed to highlight the competence of the parents on guiding their children on discussions around sex either by way of educational attainment or a survey on their knowledge on the topic. This study therefore intended to establish the influence of parental Sexual and Reproductive Health Education on teenage pregnancy prevention.

Findings by Lavin and Cox (2012) on teen pregnancy prevention in the United States of America, found changes recommended by stakeholders have contributed to steady decline in adolescent pregnancy and birth rates. Also supporting the efficiency of policy in the incidence of teenage pregnancies is a recent study conducted in South Carolina by Cameron et al., (2020) the study concludes that there is need to develop the current materials and policies to meet the needs of parents and reduce teenage sexual and reproductive health misadventures. The studies however did not look at policy framework against the demographic characteristics of Narok North Sub-County.

This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of government policy meant to safeguard teenage girls on the reduction of the pregnancy rates among teenage girls.

Puffer et al. (2016) based in North Carolina, USA, from an impact assessment of a civil society program on reduction of risky sexual behavior, found that sexually active teenagers in the educative programs registered fewer risky sexual behaviors one month after intervention. Similarly, a study on Parent and teenage attitudes on preventive care and confidentiality in America by Song et al. (2019) found that teenagers and their parents generally acknowledge the importance of civil society services like counseling on sexual and reproductive health that are instrumental in preventing teenage pregnancies. The findings by these studies imply that parents need to work in partnership with NGOs for the high cases of teenage pregnancies to be brought down. It implies that neither the parents nor the NGOs can work independently of the other and achieve success in tackling the high rates of teenage pregnancy. The studies were however done in a different socio cultural context. This study therefore sought to establish the influence youth programs, partnering with parents have on the curbing of teenage pregnancies.

Findings of a study by McDade et al. (2019) on the Effect of Communication on guiding Black Teenagers on Sexual Conduct in the US, established that health educators should consider parental participation in community and learning initiatives that are based in school to help increase adolescent safe sex practices. A study titled Parents' beliefs of the role of the black Church in adolescent pregnancy prevention by Wright et al. (2019) also focused on parental involvement. It revealed that by being conversant with parents' beliefs of adolescent pregnancy prevention initiatives, public health

experts can know concerns, develop implementation plans, and make use of parental support to gain trust before planning and implementing programs. The studies focused on the importance of parents' involvement in the programs so that the programs may get through to the teenagers with the learning initiatives. The studies however failed to show the cooperation the programs receive from the parents and vice versa. Moreover, the perception of the parents towards these programs has not been highlighted by these respective studies. Johnson-Motoyama et al. (2016) in a study on viewpoints on early pregnancy prevention initiatives for Latino youth in America; observed that parents have an important, guardian role in the socialization and growth of teenage sexual behavior and would be pivotal in helping their teenage girls in having positive outcomes.

Depauli and Plaute (2018) researched on anticipations, attitudes and reservations of parents' and teachers' towards Sexual and Reproductive Health Education in primary schools in Austria. Depauli and Plaute found teachers to be more accommodative to Sexual and Reproductive Health education than parents. Similarly, Asgharinekahet al. (2019) in a study on The urgency for family led education on sexual topics done in Iran, found that, the necessity of home based education on sex topics is efficient and this method can prevent negative sexual outcomes in teenage girls. The findings on the primary implementers on pregnancy prevention education could be attributed to reluctance by the parents in Austria to take up the role of primary instructors to their teenage girls. This may be a result of the lack of mastery on how to go about teaching the sensitive subject. The studies however did not investigate the influence of Sexual and Reproductive Health Education specifically on teenage pregnancy prevention. This

study therefore sought to investigate the influence of parents' home based Sexual and Reproductive Health Education on teenage pregnancy prevention.

A qualitative study by Jerves et al. (2014) on comprehending parental opinions of teenage sexuality in Ecuador, revealed that despite parents' enlightenment on sex issues affecting teenagers, they had a narrow view that was rooted in traditional religious concepts about sexuality, which made parents to perceive it as a risky practice that goes against the norm and may have an unintended result. Similarly, an investigation into positive parenting in Spain by Arranz and López (2018) found that parents should be given enough support to enable them accomplish their parental duties such as parent and adolescent counseling services, hot lines, online support forums, therapeutic and psycho-educational initiatives especially for the parents and teenage girls facing unfavorable conditions like drug abuse, illiteracy, poverty and marital violence. This study therefore investigated the influence of civil society programs on reducing the incidence of teenage pregnancy through the imparting of Sexual and Reproductive Health Education on the teenage girls.

Findings from a study on the approach of teachers, parents and teenagers regarding pregnancy prevention by Toor (2016) indicated that highly educated parents had considerably more positive outlook towards education on pregnancy prevention for their teenage girls than their counterparts that were less educated. Similarly, Dickson et al. (2016) in a study in India on influence of education by parents on child outcomes found that increasing parental education on sexuality issues has a positive contributing impact on teenagers' outcomes. This is because it equipped the respective parent with the information needed for parent-led education on pregnancy prevention, making their

sessions more impactful. Different observations from Faudzi et al. (2019) who did a study in Malaysia on unwanted pregnancy among adolescents noted that early pregnancy occurs because of errors and misinformation from both parents and teenagers. Parents need to have knowledge of teenagers' growth and development. They additionally have to be aware of the changing duties of parents in teenagers' lives and they should know that they are the main source of support that is needed to overcome the constraints of early pregnancy among teenagers. The studies attribute teenage pregnancies to ignorance in the form of errors and misinformation is responsible for teenage pregnancies. It is apparent that if parents neither have the knowledge nor the skill to impart effective education on pregnancy prevention, teenage pregnancies will not reduce. In support of this observation, Leung et al. (2019) observed that there is a dire need to equip parents with the essential abilities to improve the efficiency of Sexual and Reproductive Health education initiatives. This study therefore investigated the influence of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies.

Ramarumo et al. (2011) who researched on education, focusing on Safe sex for teenage girls in South Africa found that parents were of the view that teenagers should receive education on sexuality exclusively from parents. A different finding by supporting civil society programs is supported by the results of a randomized controlled trial in South Africa meant to reduce sexual debut in teenage girls by Jemmott (2012) it found that teenagers in educative programs that received the package were less probable to indicate having sexual relations, unprotected sex, and multiple sexual partners throughout the one year follow-up time than their peers in control schools. A similar observation from a study in Ghana on Parent-led education on pregnancy prevention,

by Manu et al., (2015) found that Sexual and Reproductive Health educational initiatives need to motivate parents to expand sexual discussions to cover more topics.

Peu (2019) who through a research on The Perspectives of Parents on the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy that focused on sub-Saharan Africa attributed teenage pregnancies to lack of parental communication skills, making them avoid sexuality topics altogether. Peu found that parents should engage their teenage girls in education on sexual health in order to ensure positive outcomes and avoidance of risky sexual practices that lead to sexually transmitted infections. This is because, as parents, they are the main source of support for their teenage girls. A similar conclusion was arrived at by Üstündağ (2022) after a study on sexual development by observing interaction between parents and their teenage girls. Üstündağ found the interaction language utilized by parents while counseling teenagers about sexual health improved after the parents were taken through an NGO program. These findings imply that both parents and teenage girls benefited from the programs. This may be attributed to the warm reception the programs got in the society, the studies however did not establish how youth programs particularly influence incidence of teenage pregnancies. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of youth programs on the incidence of teenage pregnancies.

Cluver et al. (2016) on an assessment of merged social protection for bringing down HIV-risk practices amongst teenagers in South Africa, state that civil society programs majoring on child-focused grants, bursaries, feeding programs, teacher support, and mentoring of parents were each linked with reduced incidence risky sexual behavior.

Kamangu et al. (2017) on impediments to parent-child discussions on sexual and their reproductive health topics in East Africa observed that parents enlightened on sexuality

issues were not afraid of engaging their teenage girls on Sexual and Reproductive Health education. Additionally, the study also noted that the parents could provide teenage girls with educational materials like books related to the topics that the child inquired about. The findings highlight the dynamic involvement that parents can have in ensuring a positive outcome in teenage girls. This can be attributed to the access to support systems and educative materials that mitigate against predisposing factors. The studies however didn't explicitly study influence of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies. This study therefore sought to investigate influence of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies.

An impact assessment of an evidence-based parenting program in the rural parts of Western Kenya by Vandenhoudt et al. (2010) concluded that the implementation of the Families Matter Program was well executed in rural Kenya and promoted parenting skills and home-based education on pregnancy prevention. They added that if supported, parents are in a privileged position to give primary prevention to teenagers before their sexual debut. A study on the efficiency of NGO and civil society programs by Chandra-Mouli et al. (2013) however gave a picture of teenage pregnancy rate in light of ongoing interventions, stating that for every 1000 pregnancies, 103 are ascribed to girls aged between 15 to 19 years which is above the mean global pregnancy rate in girls of the same age bracket which is 49 pregnancies for every 1000 pregnancies. The findings imply that despite all efforts including increasing the capacity of parents to implement education on pregnancy prevention, the incidence was still high. The studies failed to look at parent's perception of the support systems aimed at enlightening the youth on pregnancy prevention. This study therefore sought to find the influence of

parents' connectedness to support system's influence on reducing cases of teenage pregnancy.

Mwaisaka et al. (2021) who conducted a study in Narok, Kenya on exploring parents' and adolescents' perspectives on contraceptives, observed that programmatic efforts like Sexual and Reproductive Health community education should further seek to enhance the capacity of parents to discuss sexuality with their adolescents because of many misconceptions about contraceptive use. In contrast to this finding, Miriti (2022) found that counseling initiatives were efficient in curbing pregnancy cases affecting girls after a study on Teacher-student communication and prevention of early pregnancies in public High Schools within Narok County. The different findings from these studies may imply that meaningful progress on the fight against teenage pregnancies can be more effective in a school environment that has educators directly target the teenage girls with information on Sexual and Reproductive Health as opposed to targeting the parents. The different observations may be attributed to the reservation by the parents on discussing pregnancy prevention with their teenage girls. The studies however fail to investigate the attitude of parents towards implementation of Sexual and Reproductive Health education to their teenage girl. This study therefore sought to establish parents' opinion in taking up responsibility of giving education on Sexual and Reproductive Health education themselves.

## **2.2 Parenting strategy in Prevention of Teenage Pregnancies**

The study defined Parenting strategy as the manner in which parents relate to their teenage girls, it entails communication, correction and availability to the child. The two Parenting strategies used in the study are warm parenting and harsh Parenting strategy.



A study by Commendador (2010) in the US on Influence of Parents on teenagers' judgment and use of contraceptives found a connection between parental Sexual and Reproductive Health education, Parenting strategy, and teenage sexual practices. A similar observation was arrived at after a research done in USA by Lee et al. (2017) on how parents and a teenage girl's peers contribute to her outcomes, it states that despite peer influence during mid-teenage years being significantly tied to behavioral outcomes in late teenage years, early teenage bonding through parental warmth also has an effect on the teenager's outcomes. A similar conclusion from a study in China titled; Harsh parenting and adolescent depression by Tang et al. (2018) found that the direct impact of harsh Parenting strategy on teenage depression, was positively linked with teenage depression through negative self-image. The findings imply that parenting influences adolescent decision making and general positive outcome. This may be attributed to the bonding and affection developed in the teenager's younger years. The studies however do not investigate if the bonding between the parent and teenage girl has any impact on teenage pregnancy prevention. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of Parenting strategy on the prevention of teenage pregnancy.

A study by Padilla-Walker et al. (2011) after an investigation on the role of parenting and parents' personal traits on deviant peer relationships among teenagers found that adolescents' reports of warm or harsh parenting were not linked to adolescents' personal traits, and that these traits were therefore, connected to subsequent deviant peer association. A different observation was made by Mohamed et al. (2017) who after investigating Parental and Peer affiliation and its association with Positive teenage

development in Malaysia, also noted that warm parental and peer affiliation were contributing factors towards positive teenage development.

Similarly, a study by Daspe et al. (2019) in Southern California on teenagers who opened up on their friends' and their individual risky activities, revealed that fathers' warm parenting overrode each link between deviant peers and their teenage girl's risky actions. Mothers' warm parenting did not come out as a significant moderator. The difference in conclusion from these studies may be attributed to the involvement of the parent against deviant peers who may expose the teenage daughter to situations that get her pregnant. The study therefore sought to find if the parent's influence can override negative peer influence.

Findings from a study done in America by Ritchie and Buchanan (2011) on self-assessment of negative strategies of parenting, it was found that the high numbers of teenagers who perceived their parents as being often annoyed and lacking in warmth and friendliness increased probability of rebellious attitude in teenagers. Similar findings pertaining to harsh parenting were observed in a study by Wang and Qi (2017) on harsh Parenting strategy and its relationship to irresponsible internet use in Chinese teenagers, showed harsh parenting significantly motivated teenage problematic internet use and rebellious attitude. These studies discourage the use of harsh parenting on teenage girls because of their likelihood of triggering either rebellion or indifference in the teenage girls. The studies have however, not stated whether the girls brought up in low warmth homes fall pregnant as a result risky sexual practices or whether the negative attitude stops at rebellion/indifference to the parents' counsel. The study

therefore sought to establish if rebellious behavior resulting from punitive correction has an influence on the prevention of teenage pregnancy.

This observation is backed by Williams and Steinberg (2011) who observed that wholesome teenage development was enabled by warmth from the parents and little to no hostility from the parents. Regular monitoring led to less rebellious behavior from the teenager. Similarly, findings of a study in America by Barbot et al. (2014) on joint impact between maternal parenting and teenage adjustment in an environment considered as risky in terms of peer influence and social vices, observed that parent-child warmth and use of harsh punishment were uniquely predictive of changes in girls' behavioral issues and dejected mood. These studies found that warm parenting ensures that the parent-child communication stays open and prevents rebellious behavior in teenage girls. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of Parenting strategy on deviant peer association.

Findings by an American study by Benson and Buehler (2012) on family cohesion and peer pressure towards deviance and teenage rebellion contradicts this finding by revealing that family warmth contributes only a small part in protecting against teenage deviance. Similar observations were noted in a study in Spain done by Gracia et al. (2012) that showed regardless of parental traits and personality, deviance by teenage girls was a developmental risk in adolescence and not linked in any way to parental traits. A different observation was arrived at by Wade (2019) in a US study titled; Parent to Child Sexual Health Discussions. That analyzed 14 ongoing programs revealed that supportive discussion between parents and their teenage girls can successfully promote healthy communication among members of the family,

consequently reduce risky sexual activities. The difference in the findings may be attributed to the differences in the family set up based on values and parental expectations. The studies however do not link teenage deviance to the incidence of teenage pregnancies. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of Parenting strategy on a teenage girl's willingness to sharing challenges with the parent.

Hinnant et al. (2015) from a study in the United States on harsh parenting, teenage parasympathetic activity, and emergence of delinquent attitude and substance use, state that harsh parenting predicted increase in delinquency, risky sexual practices and increased likelihood of drug use. Similarly, findings from a study on the relationship of harsh parenting, parent to child discussion, and parental alcoholism with male use of alcohol into emerging adulthood in Iowa, USA by Diggs et al. (2017) revealed that harsh parenting on teenagers was directly linked to taking of alcohol and risky sexual activities in their teenage girls. Findings by Asiimwe (2018) after an investigation into authoritarian Parenting strategies further highlight the detrimental effect of harsh parenting by revealing that it makes teenagers act out through substance abuse and externalized traits. Asiimwe also revealed that harsh Parenting strategy was discovered as destructive to the overall outcome of the teenage child onto whom it is subjected to. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of a parent's parenting on the teenage girl's chances of participating in risky sexual behavior in later years.

Scott et al. (2012) in a study on the relationship between Parenting strategy to teenage problem behavior in the USA found that a harsh Parenting strategy characterized by harsher, unpredictable discipline by parents was closely linked with more hard-hearted child antisocial and rebellious behavior. Similarly, a study in Japan on corporal

punishment and resulting behavioral problems in teenage girls also revealed that harsh or frequent corporal punishment in early childhood is a proven triggering factor for later teenage behavioral problems, deviance as well as mental disorder in adulthood (Okuzono et al., 2017). Observations from these studies link harsh corporal punishment to negative teenage outcomes. The researchers have however not indicated whether severe punishment resulting from harsh parenting result in teenage pregnancies due to the child's rebellious behavior. The study therefore sought to establish the likelihood of harsh parenting triggering rebellion in the teenage girl.

As a defensive dynamic, teenage girls could turn to acceptance by peers to cushion the effect of rejection by parents, making the child vulnerable to peer pressure and subsequent risky sexual practices (Sentseet al., 2010). Asian parents have a tendency to exercise more control over their teenage girls to motivate them into seeking intellectual and academic success (Lui&Rollock, 2013). Similarly, Chinese parents exercise greater control over their teenage girls and show lower levels of warm parenting than their counterparts in America and Western countries (Ng et al., 2014). A similar observation by Li et al. (2015) indicates that affiliation to deviant age mates is higher in the families where parenting is harsh. Different findings by Simons et al. (2016) on mechanisms that link parenting practices to teenagers' risky sexual activities observed that supportive Parenting strategy emerged as the parenting practice most influential with respect to teenagers' risky sexual activities. These studies link harsh corporal punishment to deviant peer association. The association with deviant peers as a result of harsh punishment may be attributed to a need for belonging. The teenagers may be turning to deviant peers because of the notion that they cannot approach their parents to share their

experiences or ask for counsel. The study therefore sought to find if a parent's method of instilling correction causes rebellious behavior.

LotoandIsuku (2022) researched in parental issues and pregnancy among teenage girls in high schools in IbadanNigeria and recommended that parents should assume Parenting strategys which ensure family integration, warmth or togetherness to their teenage girls more so the teenagers.This is essentialin ensuring that teenage girls have the element of attachment to their parents. Nabakooza (2022) arrived at a similar conclusion after a research on the link between parenting and pregnancy among teenagersfromWakiso District, Uganda.Nabakoozafound that parents and guardians increating a conducive atmosphere and discussing with their teenage girls about sex and teenagers should be motivated to openly talk about sexual issues and experiences in order to get advice on major decisions and minimize the risk of pregnancy. A recent study by Nyangoya (2022) on Parenting strategys and sexual behavior among teenage girls in Kieni East Sub-County-Nyeri County, Kenya.Nyangoyastates that parents should consciously embrace positive Parenting strategys to strengthen their relationships with their teenage girls since this will reduce their chances of engaging in risky sexual behavior.The observations from these studies highlight the need for parents to utilize a warm Parenting strategy that their teenage girls may view them as approachable for counsel on some sensitive issues. This may be attributed to the teenager's hormonal development changes that predispose them to adopting a rebellious attitude that is most prevalent at this stage as stated by Neeltjeet al. (2020). The study therefore sought to find if parents' closeness to their teenage daughters and involvement

in decision making affects the teenage girls' chances of getting pregnant as a result of risky sexual activities.

### **2.3 Parental Socio-Cultural Status on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancies**

The study defined Socio-Cultural status as the parent's social status as seen through the cultural norms that guide the parents' response towards prevention of teenage pregnancy.

A study by Penman-Aguilar et al. (2013) that focused on Socio-Economic disadvantage as a social factor of teenage childbearing in America reveals that poor socioeconomic conditions undergone at the family level add to the high teenage pregnancy rate in America. Similar findings from a study on socio-demographic predisposing factors for teenage pregnancy amongst unmarried teenage girls in Nigerian by Izugbara (2015) observed that teenagers who were not pregnant came from households that were wealthy. Izugbara added that parents of these homes had higher educational attainments.

Similar findings have been arrived at in study by Wellings et al. (2016) on Changes in pregnancies in adolescents and the conditions of teenage mothers in England which conclude that more destitute neighborhoods have higher rates of teenage pregnancies. A similar finding in a study done in Nigeria by Dare et al. (2016) on psychosocial effects of pregnancy on teenage mothers in AngwanRukuba community, the study found that the major influence accountable for teenage pregnancy was poverty. Krugu et al. (2017) in a qualitative review of determinants associated with early pregnancy among teenagers with pregnancy in Ghana found that teenagers' motivations for getting into

sexual relationships mainly focus on financial gain. The study found that teenage pregnancy was enabled by poverty that had the girls attempt to look for financial help from their boyfriends in exchange for sexual intimacy, exposing themselves to pregnancies. This may be attributed to the fact that parents do not sufficiently provide for their teenage girls. The study therefore sought to find if pregnant teenage girls coming from poor homes had an influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy.

Observations by McCleary-Sills et al. (2013) on Gendered social norms, sexual exploitation and teenage pregnancy in rural parts of Tanzania, reveal that teenage pregnancies are triggered by poverty that pushes teenage girls into sex work. Commercial sex with older men was considered one of the few accessible sources of income that enabled teenage girls to satisfy their basic needs, leaving this as a common option for many teenage girls, even though it significantly increased the probability of teenage pregnancy. Contradicting this finding is a study by Svanemyr (2019) on teenage pregnancy and social norms that occur in Zambia. The study found lack of enough knowledge on sexuality and reproduction, combined with gender norms dictate sexual behavior and contraceptive use, and place teenage girls in a vulnerable state with respect to early pregnancy. The findings in these studies are contradictory; McCleary-Sills et al. ascribe teenage pregnancy to commercial sex work to meet basic needs whereas Svanemyr ascribes it to ignorance on sexuality and reproduction and gender norms. This may be attributed to the difference in the socio-cultural environment in the two studies. This study therefore sought to find if teenage girls get into sexual activities in order to meet basic needs



Sieving et al. (2017) after a study done on practicability, suitability, and results of a traditionally tailored teen–parent health promotion intervention; observed that program group teenagers registered considerably more participation in events applauding Latino culture, and better interaction with their parents on sexual health subjects and prevention of pregnancies. Different findings by Ahinkorah et al. (2019) embarked on examining early pregnancy associated Socio-Cultural determinants among teenage girls in the central region of Ghana. The study found that teenage girls in the urban municipality are most likely to experience consistent exposure to the risk of early pregnancy with the presence of detrimental Socio-Cultural norms. Ahinkorah et al. ascribed teenage pregnancy to cultural norms whereas Sieving concluded that culture plays a part in preventing teenage pregnancies. The different findings in these studies may be attributed to the gender and reproduction norms of these specific cultures and the position of the woman in the respective cultures. This study therefore intended to determine whether cultural norm's encouragement of early marriages had an influence on teenage pregnancy prevention.

Observations by Seloilwe et al. (2015) in their study in Botswana on parent and adolescent discussions on patterns of HIV and AIDS, sexual issues and STIs, noted that parents were uncomfortable discussing sexual topics and related risks with their own teenage girls. The parents were comfortable to discuss pregnancy prevention with other teenage girls except their biological children. Similar observations were made by Kamangu et al. (2017) after a research on impediments to parent-adolescent communication on reproductive health and sexual issues in East Africa, show that cultural norms and culture is the obstacle that prevents parents from discussing sexual

relationships with their teenage girls in East Africa. Established norms keep parents and other health professionals from speaking to adolescents therefore totally avoiding any related discussion. Additionally a study by Weber et al. (2017) on impact of a parenting program in the rural parts of Senegal points out that in many rural areas of Africa, old cultural practices and norms may dissuade parents from directly discussing sexual issues with their teenage girls. The findings from these studies show that parents and at times health professionals fail to share vital information on sexual and reproductive health with teenage girls, even when they know that it is important to do so. This reluctance may be attributed to a very strong inclination to adhere to cultural norms despite the risk of a teenager later falling pregnant because of ignorance brought about by the lack of the vital counsel. This study therefore purposed to find if cultural norms were preventing parents educating their teenage girls on sexuality.

Findings by Baku et al. (2017) who researched on Socio-Cultural factors influencing parent-teenager conversations on Sexual and Reproductive Health education in Ghana revealed that parents faulted cultural norms for keeping them from discussing sex topics with teenagers. A different observation was arrived at by Nyewe (2020) on parent-child education norms in rural parts of South Africa, who discovered that parents were more at ease participating in education on pregnancy prevention with their teenage girls rather than girls below thirteen years of age. The parents didn't consider talks on sexual relations and instruments taboo subjects. The contradiction in these studies may be attributed to the standing of the community's culture on issues surrounding discussions sex issues. With a culture that discourages discussions sex issues, the parent will not offer education on pregnancy prevention whereas, a culture that encourages a parent to

guide and nurture a child in all aspects, the child may be taken through guidance on pregnancy prevention. This study therefore sought to find if cultural norms being obstacles preventing parents from taking their teenage girls through Sexual and Reproductive Health education, had an influence on teenage pregnancy prevention.

Observations by Stark (2016) who investigated commercial early marriage, sex and Parent to adolescent child relations in a slum in Tanzanian found that in the traditional context, puberty marked the beginning of adulthood, a Tanzanian child is perceived as an autonomous adult; the teenage sons are expected to look for employment after primary school, and teenage girls are expected to either secure employment or find men to sustain them. TeLindert et al. (2021) in their research on Viewpoints of Issues Enabling Pregnancies among Teenagers in Lindi Region, Tanzania similarly revealed that teenage pregnancy in the region of Tanzania is high. The researchers further noted that this results from lack of individual agency which comprise of peer pressure, low decision-making strength, and sexual coercion, exposing the teenage girl to situations that may lead to pregnancy. The findings imply that teenage girls are driven into relationships because of societal expectations based on sexual maturity and desperation. The study therefore sought to establish whether sexually mature teenage girls independence from parents had an influence on teenage pregnancy prevention.

A study done by Archambault (2011) on ethnographic empathy and the social context of rights, reveal that early marriage practices in Ethiopia are motivated by established beliefs and cultural norms that are not easily discouraged through logical arguments. The observation is shared by Moturi (2016) who researched on determinants of teenage pregnancies in Narok County. Moturi discovered that teenagers customarily married in

teenage years and were directly exposed to having sex more often and the chance of becoming pregnant was a matrimonial expectation. The findings of these studies show that parents may not be against the idea of teenage pregnancies; they may actually encourage it, ignoring any discouragement of the practice. These findings may be attributed to the cultural practice of early marriages that sees many teenage girls fall pregnant. The study therefore sought to investigate the influence of cultural norms on teenage pregnancy prevention.

## **2.4 Theoretical concept**

### **Social Network Theory**

In the late 1890s, Émile Durkheim and Ferdinand Tönnies both conceived the concept of social networks in their theories and study of social groups. Tönnies stated that social groups can be in existence as individual and direct social links that either connect people who share faith and cultural norms (*Gemeinschaft* meaning "community") or non-personal, formal, and purposeful social links (*Gesellschaft*, meaning "society"). Durkheim gave a non-personal explanation of social facts, stating that social phenomena come up when interacting people constitute a reality that can no longer be attributed in terms of the traits of individual actors (Marcucci, 2017).

Vicsek et al. (2016) in a study on Networks in the social sciences developed the Social Network Theory by introducing non-human actors into networks that also contain humans. This is relevant to the study because, it shall help the study analyse the structure of parent's social network to understand how information, norms and attitudes related to teenage pregnancy are transmitted. In the interactions between parents, support systems, the community and teenage girls, some non-human actors that include

socio cultural norms may at times impact the parent's attitude and perception on teenage pregnancy prevention.

A parent's level of awareness may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. According to Engelbert et al. (2019) this is because it will inform the guidance that the teenage girl will receive. Parental awareness will also determine how connected the parent will be to support systems in the community that will supplement parental guidance, creating a strong social network of support around the teenage girl. The Parenting strategy adopted by the parent may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. The respective Parenting strategy may determine the strength of the connection between the parent and the teenage girl in the social network, subsequently defining the success or failure in the teenage girl's encounter with predisposing factors to teenage pregnancies. The cultural norms that guide the parents' response towards prevention of teenage pregnancy are non-human actors in the parent's social networks (Vicsek et al., 2016). They establish how a parent approaches the concept of prevention of teenage pregnancies. A parent who has a strong connection to detrimental cultural norms will allow and at times encourage early marriage, exposing a girl to teenage pregnancy. A parent, who has a weak connection to detrimental cultural norms, will keep the teenage girl from factors predisposing them to teenage pregnancies.

Social network theory is established on the belief that social interactions are crucial to understanding both a single person's action and a society's outcome. Networks can be defined as linked social units, like groups, institutions, or people that are connected. The theory gives an explanation of how random individuals are connected, it is

important in the study of big groups and knowing how their members associate with others in the group and it gives insight into trending issues(Borgatti et al., 2018).

According to the Social Network theory and in relation to this study, the parents to the teenage girls play a role in their outcome on teenage pregnancy prevention efforts because of the close proximity to the teenage girls in their social network as described by the social network theory. The social interaction of a parent with the teenage girls is against a backdrop of the parent's level of awareness on teenage pregnancy prevention strategies and parent's affiliation to certain parenting values and cultural norms. A parent's awareness, Parenting strategy and cultural norms guide how they interact with their teenage daughters who are closely networked to them by virtue of family ties and this subsequently determine the teenage girl's outcome in the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

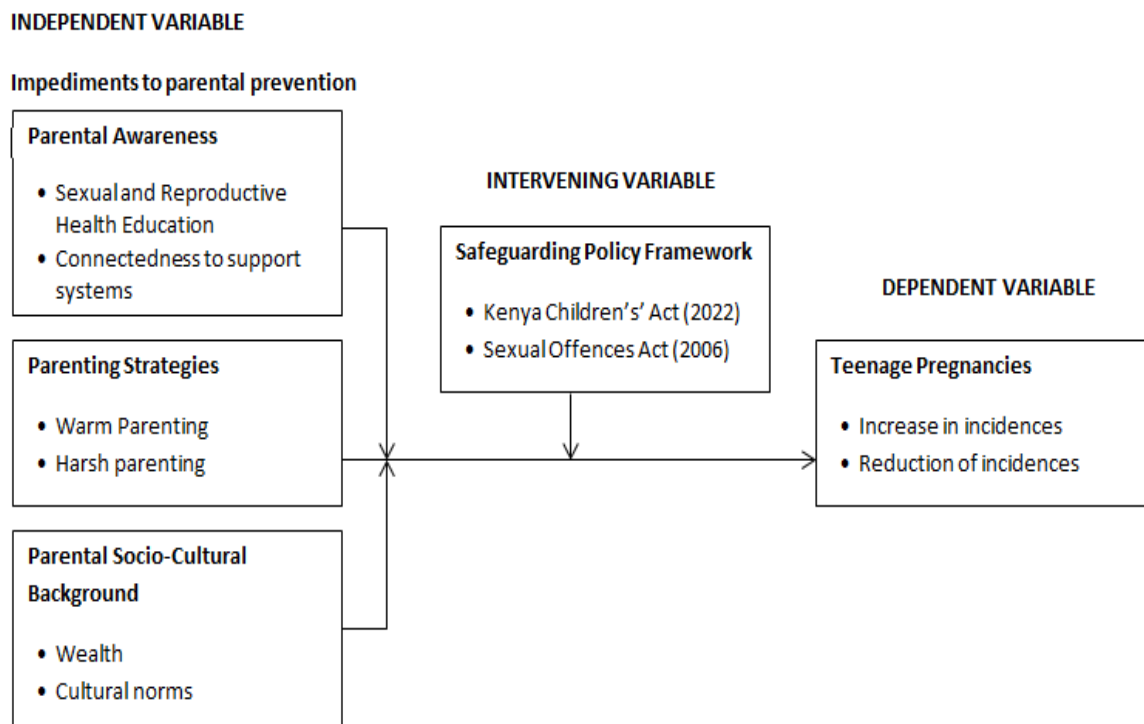
The theory was relevant to this research since its hypothesis underscore, the duties and commitments of social networks which involve the socialization of girls by parents who have a certain level of awareness on teenage pregnancy prevention strategies and affiliate themselves with certain parenting values and cultural norms.

## 2.5 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework is an illustration of how the various objectives, and the variables attached to them interact with the dependent variable through the intervening variable.

**Figure 2.1:**

### *Conceptual Framework*



**Source: Researcher**

If all factors remain constant, the alteration of the independent variables will cause a change in the dependent variable which is decrease or increase in the number of teenage pregnancies. This means that if necessary changes are made in parental awareness of teenage pregnancy prevention through the indicators; Sexual and Reproductive Health education and connectedness to support systems, or the changes are made to Parenting

strategy through the indicators; warm parenting and harsh parenting or changes in parental socio cultural status through its indicators; wealth and cultural norms, then a decrease in number of teenage pregnancies will be realized. The intervening variable which is government policy such as the Kenyan Children Act (2022) and the Sexual Offences Act (2006) that seeks to ensure every child in Kenya is adequately protected may however interfere with the desired outcome that the independent variables intend to make, it is not within the study's control. Government policy may either promote the reduction of teenage pregnancies or take an action that stops the teenage pregnancies from decreasing. The unit of analysis would be an increased or decreased number of teenage pregnancies



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter discusses the research methodology, it discusses the research design, describing the location of the study, the population of the study, the sample size and sampling procedure. It also presents the research instruments, explains validity and reliability. The chapter also entails the data collection process, analysis of data and the ethical considerations.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

A research design is a framework for the collection and analysis of data Bryman, (2012). This study employed descriptive cross sectional survey design on investigation of the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies. Descriptive cross sectional survey design is the most appropriate for the study because of the level of measurement of the study which is nominal (Majid, 2018).

#### **3.2 Location of the Study**

This study location is Narok-North Sub-County situated in Narok County with coordinates 1.0918° S, 35.8498° E and an area of 7,459 Km<sup>2</sup>. Narok County has six (6) sub-counties specifically: Narok West, Narok South, Narok-North, Narok East, Transmara West and Transmara East. Narok-North Sub-County is located in the southern part of the Rift Valley. The county borders Tanzania to the South West and six neighboring counties namely: Migori, Bomet, Nyamira, Kisii, Kajiado and Nakuru County. Most people in this County are practicing cattle rearing and large scale wheat

farming. The main towns in Narok North sub-county are Mulot, Ololunga and Narok town.

### **3.3 Target Population**

According to latest data from KNBS (2019), Narok County has a population estimated at 1,157,873 people, composed of 241,125 households. Narok-North Sub-County has a population of 250,105 made up of 59,996 households. The largest ethnic groups are the Maasai at 58% and Kalenjinat 34% both being natives of the region. The main commercial activity is large scale farming of wheat and nomadic pastoralism.

### **3.4 Inclusion Criteria**

To participate in the study, participants were required to be biological parents to a teenage girl that got pregnant or given birth, to be teenage girls that got pregnant or had given birth, be inhabitants of Narok-North Sub-County for a duration of not less than two years, be available in the research location at the time of the research, be willing to contribute in the research, and sign informed consent letter.

### **3.5 Exclusion Criteria**

The study excluded all parents who did not have teenage girls, it excluded teenage girls who had not fallen pregnant, those who were inhabitants in the Sub-County for a period of less than two years, those who were not available in the research location at the time of the study and those who were not agreeable to contribute to the research.

### **3.6 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure**

Sample population was drawn from Sub-County population of 250,105. Sample size was determined by using Snowball sampling. This is a sampling method where

respondents nominate subsequent respondents in a non-linear manner as explained by Etikan et al. (2016). The sampling procedure was utilized in the respective wards by getting leads from the area chiefs In Narok North Sub-County, the respondents who were suggested and agreed to participate linked the study to other participants helping the study to arrive at 165 main respondents at saturation as explained by (Morse, 2015). The sampling procedure was used because it is the most appropriate for a descriptive study (Parker et al., 2019).

### **3.6.1 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure for Key Informants**

Simple random sampling was employed to get 10 key informants from the available 72 girls who had fallen pregnant from among the households arrived at after snowballing. This was done using lottery method where numbers representing each potential participant was written and balled up before being picked indiscriminately. Statistical recommendation by Mason (2010) states that 10 key informants are sufficient to gather insightful data. The girls were selected as the Key Informants because they had a bird's eye view of teenage pregnancies in relation to parental impediments. This can be seen by the fact that the teenage girls interact directly with the parents as they receive counsel from parents, the teenage girls experience the predisposing factors that expose them to pregnancies and they also get to participate in programs aimed at safeguarding girls. It is because of this privileged bird's eye perspective that the study selected them as Key Informants.

### **3.7 Research Instruments**

This study used both questionnaires and interview schedule as the instruments of data collection.

### **3.7.1 Questionnaires**

The study developed questionnaires based on the literature review. The tool was piloted in Narok South Sub County, which shares the same demographic traits with Narok North Sub County, ensuring its reliability with an average Chronbach's Alpha Coefficient of above .70. The questionnaires were administered to the main respondents who are parents to the girls that were pregnant. The questionnaire was used because it is designed to gather data over a larger sample size in an efficient and cost effective manner (Cohen et al., 2017). The questionnaire had a part for demographic information; questions under each objective had a 5-point Likert scale to satisfactorily accommodate the respondents' divergent viewpoints (Joshi et al., 2015). A section for the capture of qualitative data was also included. Three follow up questions after each Likert scale to capture qualitative data. The respondents' chosen options and responses were keyed into SPSS version 26.0 for the analysis purposes.

### **3.7.2 Interview Schedules**

The interview schedules according to Bearman, (2019), are tools that serve the purpose of supplementing the questionnaires by capturing qualitative information that the questionnaires failed to record. The interview schedules were administered to the key informants who are girls that were pregnant. The purpose and advantage of the data collection tool is that it fulfilled the mixed Method nature of the study by supplementing the questionnaires in capturing the views, attitudes and opinions that the questionnaires failed to record (Barrett, & Twycross, 2018). The interview schedules had three sections. Section A captured respondent's views on parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancy. It had had 6 questions, 2 requiring yes/no response; section B captured respondents'

views on Parenting strategy. It had 4 questions and section C captured respondents' views on parental Socio-Cultural status. It had 4 questions totaling to 14 questions.

### **3.8 Validity and Reliability of Research Instruments**

The study ensured that the tools were efficient in the collection of valid and reliable data. This was important because it would enable the analysis of sensible data that would help achieve the Study's objectives (Sürücü&Maslakçi, 2020).

#### **3.8.1 Validity of the Questionnaires**

Validity is the degree to which any measurement approach or instrument succeeds in describing or quantifying what it is designed to measure (Weiner, 2007). The questions were tailored to effectively collect the details meant to be analyzed. Face validity was done through consultation with university experts who considered if each questions on the tool had qualities that the instrument is designed to cover as stated by Taherdoost, (2016).Construct and content validity was done to ensure the test items represent the content that it was designed to measure. Automatic computation using SPSS version 26.0 was done to obtain a construct validity index of .78 and a content validity index of .82, both results were considered satisfactory by Chan and Idris (2017) who stated that a validity index of above.70 is satisfactory.

#### **3.8.2 Reliability of the Research Instruments**

According to Hajjar (2018), reliability testing gives researchers clear information about refining the survey's scale ensuring consistent result on repeated application.

Pilot testing was done in Narok South Sub County because the region shares the same demographic traits as Narok North Sub County. The tool was administered to

respondents; this was done again after two months to the same respondents to check on the tool's consistency.

The results obtained from the piloting were tabulated and internal consistency of the instrument was obtained by computing Cronbach's Alpha using statistical package for social sciences version 26.0. This was computed to test the reliability of the questionnaire instrument with specific reference to internal consistency of the scale.

**Table 3.1:**

*Internal Consistency of the Constructs*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Number of Items</b>	<b>Cronbach's Alpha coefficient</b>
Parental awareness	5	.92
Parenting strategies	5	.81
Socio-Cultural factors	5	.85

**Source: Researcher**

From Table 3.1, it can be observed that all the scales had Cronbach's Alpha coefficient were above .8, indicating that the items in the sub-scales of internally consistent to the respective constructs. Bolarinwa(2015), states that a reliability coefficient (alpha) of .70 or more is deemed suitable. Therefore, the questionnaire instrument was considered reliable for data collection.

**3.9 Data Collection Procedure**

Research Assistants were trained to help in collection of data. Informed consent from respondents was obtained after the nature of the study was explained; the questionnaire was administered to the main respondents who were the biological parents to the

teenage girls. The participants then filled the questionnaires and returned the filled tool to the research assistant. Interview Schedules were administered to the Key Informants who were representative group of the girls that fell pregnant after their respective parents filled the 'Parent/Caregiver consent for child participation' form. Responses from Key Informants was captured by taking field notes so that the common themes could later be identified to help in getting conclusions from the answers (Neuendorf, 2018). Interview schedules were utilized to get qualitative information on parental awareness on teenage pregnancy prevention, Parenting strategy and its role in early pregnancy prevention and the Socio-Cultural effect on teenage pregnancy prevention.

### **3.10 Data Analysis and Presentation**

All data collection tools were examined for data quality before analysis. This entailed proofreading of the data to guarantee that the raw data gathered was devoid of mistakes and oversights and allowed the discovered mistakes to be amended. Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, based on percentages and frequency counts. Qualitative data was analyzed thematically through coding. This was performed by allocating digits to replies for the sake of categorization. The categorization entailed placing data in clusters or classes on the basis of resemblances as explained by Rivas (2018).

The data was later organized into frequency distribution tables and examination was performed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The findings were displayed in tables and charts in form of frequencies and percentages. Pearson Correlation was applied to evaluate the linear relationship between Parental Socio-Cultural Status and the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

### **3.11 Ethical Considerations**

The study was authorized by Rongo University and The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation. Research Assistants observed COVID-19 safety measures. To ensure there was respect for privacy, information was handled with the utmost confidentiality, making sure that all the responses would not be disclosed to any party. Each participant was requested to volunteer for participation by giving their informed consent by signing the consent forms, only agreeing to participate after fully understanding the nature and purpose of the study. Permission for the teenage girls to participate in the study was sought from the biological parents. Anonymity was observed ensuring that no names or information identifying the respondent was recorded. Any relevant cause of apprehension was allayed by assurance. The research participants could withdraw from the study at will whenever they felt unable to proceed. All this was done to safeguard the respondents from any harm that may result from participation in the study.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Introduction

The chapter presents the results of data analysis and discussions of the study. The first part of this chapter addresses respondents' demographic information followed by the analysis and discussion of the findings.

#### 4.2 Questionnaire Return Rate

Table 4.1 presents the return rate of questionnaires from the respondents.

**Table 4.1:**

*Summary of Return Rate of Questionnaire*

Respondents	Questionnaires Administered	Questionnaires Returned	Percentage Return rate
Parents	165	158	95.7

Table 4.1 shows that the return rate of the respondents' questionnaire was 158 (95.7%). This is far above the threshold set by Cooper et al. (2019) of 75% as a satisfactory return rate for use in data analysis.

#### 4.3 Background Information of Parents

In this section, the study presents the demographic information on gender, highest level of education, employment status, and monthly income status of the parents in Table 4.2. The information on gender, highest level of education, employment status, and monthly

income status of the parents were collected for analysis and discussion because they are indicators of key variables being investigated. Level of education is an indicator of parental awareness on teenage pregnancy prevention strategies because of the technological and medical changes that keep taking place over time and shared by the society through formal education (Kind et al., 2018). Income status of the parent is an indicator of wealth, a social variable of parental socio-cultural background that is also under investigation in this study. Data on the gender of the parent has been collected due to the woman's responsibility of nurturing the teenage girl towards a positive outcome in the African context (Hatch et al., 2018).

**Table 4.2:*****Demographic Information of Respondents***

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Male	44	27.8
Female	114	72.2
Total	158	100
<b>Highest Level of Education of Respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Primary	65	41
Secondary	44	28
College/Tertiary Institution	25	16
University	24	15
Total	158	100
<b>Employment Status of Respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Self Employed	102	64.6
Unemployed	13	8.2
Retired	6	3.8
Total	158	100
<b>Average Income of Respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
0-5000	12	7.6
5001-10000	82	51.9
10001-15000	34	21.5
15001-20000	17	10.8
20001 and above	8	5.1
Total	158	100

**Source: Researcher****4.3.1 Gender of Parents**

The study sought to establish gender distribution of parents as it was an important background characteristic of parents in the study. The results are presented in Table 4.2.

The results in Table 4.2 shows that majority 114(72.2%) of the respondents were female while male respondents were 44(27.8%).This finding shows that mothers are most available to their teenage girls because they make up the majority of the respondents found at home. The lack of availability of the fathers may be attributed to the socio-cultural and socio-economic orientation of the respondents, leaving teenage girls under the care of their mothers as is the cultural norm in African societies(Nkedianye et al., 2020).

The high prevalence of teenage pregnancy among teenage girls could be attributed to the finding that most of them are taken care of by the mothers consistent with observations by Daspe et al. (2019) who found that mothers do not have as much positive impact towards the prevention of teenage pregnancies as compared to the fathers.

#### **4.3.2 Highest Level of Education of Respondents**

The Figure 4.2 presents the results on the distribution of parents based on highest level of education.41%of the parents did not go beyond primaryschool level.The findings of this study suggest that teenage girls may be exposed to negative outcomes on prevention of pregnancies due the possibility of the parents have insufficient knowledge on education on sexual and reproductive health because of advancement in technology that has happened over time, backing this finding, Baku et al. (2017) concluded that education influences parents' stance on adolescent reproductive and sexual health after a study on effects of training on parents' understanding and attitudes onteenagedeliberations on sexual health topics in Accra Metropolis, Ghana. This may reveal that parents are unfamiliar with the formal way in which education on sexual

health is done as opposed to the informal way it was previously done by both parents and grandparents.

#### **4.3.3 Employment Status of Respondents**

The Table 4.2 presents the results obtained on the distribution of employment status of respondents. The table shows that majority of the respondents (64.6%) are Self employed and only 23.4 percent of the respondents are on formal employment. It is also noted that 8.2% of the respondents are unemployed, while 3.8% of the respondents were on retirement. Selfemployment is no guarantee of steady income to the parents and this may imply that the teenage girls may not always be getting adequate provision of basic needs. This state of affairs could be tempting the teenage girls to become vulnerable to unprotected sex in exchange of basic requirements from opportunistic boyfriends which can easily lead to many cases of teenage pregnancies in the study area.

#### **4.3.4 Income Status of Respondents**

Table 4.2 presents the results obtained on the distribution of monthly income status of the respondents. Majority (51.9%) of parents earn a small salary of Ksh. 5,001 to 10,000 and this may suggest that they are unable to satisfy all the family's needs like sanitary towels for the teenage girls. According to Central Organization of Trade Unions (2019), the minimum wage is Ksh.13, 572 with any wage below that being insufficient to sustain a household for a month. This finding agrees with observations made by Chirwa et al. (2019) who revealed that one of the determinants for inequality in teenage pregnancy and child bearing is income status. It is also consistent with Rohmah et al. (2020) who found out that variables, such as age, lower wealth status, lack of education, and working were determinants of teenage pregnancy. This finding reveals that teenage

girls are inadequately provided for at the household level and may need to source for additional necessities from individuals outside the household, some possibly being opportunistic men who may be interested in sex.

#### 4.4 Parental Awareness in Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy

To answer the first research question, ‘What is the influence of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County?’ Various aspects of awareness were investigated. This is discussed in the subsequent sub-sections.

##### 4.4.1 Level of Awareness to Sexual and Reproductive Health Education by Parents

The level of awareness to Sexual and Reproductive Health education by the various categories of respondents is presented in various tables and figures as follows:

**Table 4.3:**

*Giving Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to Teenagers Reduces Pregnancy*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	30	19.0	19.2
	Disagree	31	19.6	19.9
	Neutral	29	18.4	18.6
	Agree	48	30.4	30.8
	Strongly Agree	18	11.4	11.5
	Total	156	98.7	100.0
Missing	System	2	1.3	
Total		158	100.0	

Table 4.3 indicates that 48(30.4%) parents agreed that giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education to teenage girls reduces cases of teenage pregnancy while 31 (19.6%) parents disagreed and 30(19.0%) parents strongly disagreed. This may imply that

parents understand the benefits of education on prevention of pregnancies to their teenage girls as an effective way to prevent early pregnancies. Findings were consistent with those of Wisniewski, (2015) who stated that parents' discussion with teenagers on relationship and sexual issues positively impacts on prevention of teenage pregnancies. The study established that most of the parents were aware of the efficiency of education on prevention of pregnancy as an effective way of combating pregnancies among teenagers with most parents citing the introduction of NGO programs as the reason.

Content analysis of comments of parents who were in agreement with the construct revealed that Sexual and Reproductive Health education enlightens teenage girls on contraceptive use in pregnancy prevention, saying no to sex, understanding the consequences and risks of early sex, and encourages teenage girls to avoid sex and where not possible use contraceptives. Some of the verbatim comments of these parents included:

*“Education on prevention of pregnancy teaches her about contraceptives and prevention measures and therefore, helps her say no to sex and so avoid sex till she is ready.” (Parent 14)*

*“Educating girls on the results of teenage pregnancy puts fear in them and helps them learn effects of early sex. So they avoid it.” (Parent 96)*

From the above statements, it suggests that the parents attribute successful abstinence from risky sexual behavior by teenagers on education on prevention of teenage pregnancy. The parents utilize information on contraceptives and negative consequences of early pregnancies to encourage self-discipline and positive outcomes in their teenage girls. This revelation by the parents agrees with Commendador (2010) who did a study in the US on Parental influences on adolescent decision making and

contraceptive use. The research discovered that Sexual and Reproductive Health education by parents delays sexual debut and promotes use of contraceptives. Similarly, De Looze et al. (2015) who researched on parent–teenage sexual discussions and its link with teenage sexual behaviors. In all, 75% of parents in their study indicated having tackled at least one topic on Sexual and Reproductive Health education many times with their teenage girls and noticed considerable changes. This reveals that parents have a lot of trust in the efficiency of Sexual and Reproductive Health education that is well implemented and consider it as a good way of ensuring a positive outcome in the prevention of pregnancy.

On the other hand, parent 48 argued that:

*“Education on prevention of pregnancy helps them get patient and is only effective for girls who are obedient.” (Parent 48)*

This statement by parent 48 implies that the parent relies on the daughter’s compliance to education given for the prevention of teenage pregnancy to succeed. The compliance on the part of the teenage daughter is the key factor in the teenage daughter’s outcome in the efforts of teenage pregnancy prevention.

Conversely, analysis of the comments of parents who were against the construct pointed out that Sexual and Reproductive Health education stimulates sexual activity of teenage girls, prompts curiosity to experiment, and claimed that it was ineffective in prevention of teenage pregnancy. Some of the comments made by these parents included:

*“Education on prevention of pregnancy makes her sexually active, is immoral and makes her wants to experiment.” (Parent 102)*



From the above statement it implies that to the parent, the education may enlighten the girl on sexual issues she may not have been aware of. This newfound knowledge may prompt the girl to get sexually active. This reveals parental education on sexual issues should be done on a case by case basis, only focusing on teenage girls that are sexually active.

*“My daughter still got pregnant. It doesn’t work and I don’t support it.”  
(Parent 71)*

From the extract above, it suggests that the sexual education that she gave to her teenage daughter was ineffective because the daughter eventually fell pregnant. She therefore believes that the education in prevention of pregnancy is not a determinant to the prevention of teenage pregnancy. This contradicts findings by Peu (2019) who through a research on The Perspectives of Parents on the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy that focused on sub-Saharan Africa, emphasized on parents to be honest and engage their teenage girls in Sexual and Reproductive Health education in order to ensure positive outcomes and avoidance of risky sexual practices that lead to early pregnancies and sexual infections. The difference in opinion on the reliability of Sexual and Reproductive Health education has not taken into consideration other determinants like peer influence that may override its impact.

*“Girls already know these things. They are able to get the information from the internet.” (Parent 39)*

From the above statement, the parent is of the opinion that teenage girls are already aware of practices that promote prevention of teenage pregnancy. This may be because

the world has increased access to information through the Internet, implying that Sexual and Reproductive Health education by the parent is unnecessary. (Lauren et.al., 2021)

The findings suggests that the ineffectiveness of Sexual and Reproductive Health education in prevention of teenage pregnancy could be a result of parents' casual attitude towards it, ineffective parent to daughter communication, and negative perception.

The finding concurs with key informant results indicating that 40 percent of parents took their girls through Sexual and Reproductive Health education while 60 percent did not. The ineffectiveness in communication is because the teenage girls experience challenges such as fear of talking about sex life, attitude towards contraceptive use, shyness and embarrassment. Two the key informants said;

*"I become very shy when being talked to by my parents about sex because it is a taboo for parents to discuss sexual matter with teenage girls. This makes find it difficult to open up for such talk. It wouldbe better if done by counselors or teachers." (Teenage daughter 4)*

From the excerpt, it is apparent that the child is uncomfortable to get Sexual and Reproductive Health education from her parents because of cultural restrictions, preferring it to be done by counselors or teachers. This causes her to become shy and uncomfortable when her parent tries educating her on topics surrounding sex. Similar to this finding, Pound, et al. (2016) who did a school-based sex and relationship education study also found that sexual and reproductive education should be 'sex-positive' and conducted by experts who keep clear boundaries with students. Schools must realize that sex is a unique subject with special challenges, otherwise teenagers will continue to disengage from Sexual and reproductive education and chances for safeguarding and

improving their sexual health will be reduced. Arriving at a different observation, Robinson et al. (2017) found that sexuality education was relevant and important to teenagers and that it is best done as a team effort between families and respective schools, with parents still being in the picture. The involvement of a parent's consent and occasional viewpoints is crucial even as professionals take the lead in discussing sensitive subjects as stated by (Wright et al., 2019)

*“My parents wanted me to put contraceptives but I don't like them. They irritate me because I heard my friends who used different contraceptives complain so much about their effect. So I fear to try using them.” (Teenage daughter 8)*

From the statement above, it implies that the teenage girl is uncomfortable in using contraceptives in the prevention of early pregnancy. This is because her friends suffer side effects from the use of contraceptives. This negative attitude towards contraceptives may in turn make her vulnerable to teenage pregnancies. This finding agrees with the social network theory's application to the study. A parent's level of awareness may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. This is because it will inform the guidance that the teenage girl may receive based on the parent's knowledge on teenage pregnancy and prevention strategies. The teenage girl's friends however also determine her outcome in the prevention of teenage pregnancy. The teenage girl's decision will depend on the social network that is stronger to her, either her parents or her friends. This reveals that a teenage girl's outcome on the prevention of teenage pregnancies is partly influenced by the company she keeps

#### 4.4.2 Reduction of Teenage Pregnancy through Giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education is the Parent's Responsibility

As the primary guardians of the teenage girls, parents are expected to help prevent pregnancies. Table 4.6 shows the responses obtained regarding them taking up responsibility.

**Table 4.4:**

*Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to the Teenage Girls is the Responsibility of Parents*

		Frequency	Percentages	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	38	24.1	24.4
	Disagree	32	20.2	20.5
	Neutral	51	32.4	32.7
	Agree	20	12.7	12.8
	Strongly Agree	15	9.5	9.6
	Total	156	98.7	100.0
Missing	System	2	1.3	
Total		158	100.0	

Table 4.4 shows that 51(32.4%) parents were neutral on whether reduction of teenage pregnancy through giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education is their responsibility, however, 38(24.1%) parents strongly disagreed, and 32(20.2%) parents disagreed. The results of this study shows that about two out of ten parents considered giving the education to teenage girls their responsibility, these findings have established that parents are shying away from personally taking it up. This may be attributed to the fact that a majority (41%) of parents stopped at the primary level of education where there is no formal education on Sexuality and therefore may have insufficient

knowledge to implement it, given the advancement in technology that has taken place over time.

Findings by Dyson and Smith (2012) revealed that many parents perceive Sexual and Reproductive Health education as their responsibility, with the school education simply being additional. In agreement with the observations are findings from a study on the approach of teachers, parents and teenagers regarding Sexual and Reproductive Health education were arrived at by Toor (2016) who indicated that highly educated parents had considerably more positive outlook towards it for their teenage girls than their counterparts that were less educated.

An analysis of comments of parents who were against giving education on prevention of pregnancies to their teenage girls asserted that male parents were not willing and ready to take up the responsibility but instead advocated for Sexual and Reproductive Health education to be passed down to teenage girls through school teachers, mothers, experts, youth programs, and non-governmental organizations. The comments of some of the parents included:

*“The mother should do it or teachers or experts through youth programs.”*  
(Parent 132)

*“I am the parent, I cannot teach prevention of pregnancies to my girl and I believe it should not be done by parents.”* (Parent 68)

From the above excerpts, it suggests that the parents to the teenage girls prefer that the education on prevention of pregnancy should be delegated to either the experts or teachers because of the discomfort in giving the education on prevention of pregnancy themselves.

*“Education on prevention of pregnancy should be done in youth programs and only on abstinence.”*

(Parent 56)

From the statement above, it may suggest that the parent is of the opinion that education on prevention of pregnancy should only entail abstinence from sex. Other factors such as contraceptives should be avoided entirely. This may be attributed to cultural values that guide the parent's viewpoint as found by Baku et al. (2017) The finding is in line with the social network theory's application to the study that states that an individual's outcome is dependent on social networks, the parent acknowledges the positive influence of the Youth Programs in shaping the outcome of the teenage girl.

#### **4.4.3 Youth Programs sought support of Parents in Prevention of Teenage pregnancy**

Table 4.5 shows the engagement that the respondents report as being between them and the youth programs.

**Table 4.5:**

*Parents are aware that Youth Programs seek their support to Prevent Pregnancy*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	32	19.7	20.0
	Disagree	41	25.9	26.2
	Neutral	4	2.5	2.5
	Agree	48	29.7	30.1
	Strongly Agree	33	20.8	21.1
	Total	156	98.7	100.0
	Missing System	2	1.3	
Total		158	100.0	

With regard to whether youth programs sought support of parents in prevention of teenage pregnancy, Table 4.5 reveals that 48(29.7%) parents agreed that youth programs sought support of parents in prevention of teenage pregnancy while a paltry

41(25.9%) parents disagreed and 33(20.8%) parents strongly agreed. The finding in this study imply that youth programs work hand in hand with the parents in the efforts to reduce teenage pregnancies, to have the parent's viewpoint and subsequently have the parent monitor the child.

In agreement to these findings, Cluver et al. (2016) stated that civil society programs majoring on child-focused grants, bursaries, feeding programs, teacher support, and mentoring of parents were each linked with reduced incidence risky sexual behavior that often result in early pregnancies. The finding is similar to observations by Wright et al. (2019) who found by being conversant with parents' beliefs of adolescent pregnancy prevention initiatives, public health experts can know concerns, develop implementation plans, and make use of parental support to gain trust before planning and implementing programs.

This signifies that nearly half of parents recognized youth programs involvement of parents in prevention of teenage pregnancy through seeking necessary support from parents. The parents in their written remarks stated sanitary pads, basic needs, consent for attendance, and making follow up on what is learnt as the support youth programs required of them.

*“Taking my daughter through these topics was not easy, I am glad the programs are here to educate them.” (Parent 29)*

The extract above from a parent indicates the positive reception of the programs that has availed Sexual and Reproductive Health education that many parents were uncomfortable in giving as stated by Morawska et al. (2015) who found that parents have the important part in the maturity of teenager's sexual health, but often feel uneasy

and nervous on the best approach to take in educating their teenage girls about sexual topics. This is in line with the Social Network Theory's application to the study's application to the study. According to the theory, parental awareness will also determine how connected the parent will be to support systems in the community that will create a strong social network of support around the teenage girl.

#### **4.4.4 Youth Programs on Sexual and Reproductive Health Education can help in reducing cases of Teenage Pregnancy**

The respondents gave their opinion on the effectiveness of Sexual and Reproductive Health education by youth programs helping in reducing cases of pregnancy among teenagers.

**Table 4.6:**

*Youth Programs on Sexual and Reproductive Health Education can help in reducing cases of Teenage Pregnancy*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	6	4.0
	Disagree	32	20.1
	Neutral	37	23.4
	Agree	35	22.0
	Strongly Agree	48	30.5
	Total	158	100.0

Table 4.6 indicates that 48(30.5%) parents strongly agree that youth programs on Sexual and Reproductive Health education can help in reducing cases of teenage pregnancy while 37(23.4%) parents were neutral and 35(22.0%) parents agreed that youth programs can help in reducing cases of teenage pregnancy. This may suggest that parents have built a lot of trust in youth programs and believe that they can help reduce



cases of teenage pregnancy through their programs on contraceptive use for sexually active teenage girls, advocacy on abstinence, awareness creation campaigns on Sexual and Reproductive Health education, and teaching on life skills.

Inconsistent findings by Chandra-Mouli et al. (2015) who conducted a review on programs commonly taken as best practices in the prevention of teenage pregnancies, showed that adolescent centers, peer education, and occasional meetings have actually not been effective in teenagers' access to services and information on reproductive and sexual health transforming their behaviors, or impacting on social norms around teenage sexual and reproductive health. Similar findings were arrived at in a study on the role of NGOs in girl's education in New York by Song et al. (2019), who noted that Civil Society's advocacy plays a very crucial part in opposing harmful cultural norms and attitudes that prevent girls from completing their education. The inconsistency in the findings on the reliability of civil society programs in countering predisposing factors to teenage pregnancies may be attributed to the lack of parental reinforcement of Sexual and Reproductive Health education through home based recaps of what is done in the programs.

The findings on youth programs was consistent with key informant finding indicating that 80 percent of teenage girls participated in youth programs while 20 percent did not participate. However, the teenage girls reported that youth programs faced challenges that compromised their effectiveness. Some of the concerns reported by key informants included:

*“The teacher is a man and we cannot easily open up to him as girls. I propose that we should have a female teacher.” (Teenage daughter 2)*

From the above statement, it may imply that the teenage daughter feels a female instructor would be more effective because she would be able to relate to the teenage girls and their challenges as opposed to a male instructor.

*“The girls just asked silly question and are not serious. Meaning we just spend a lot of time for no good reason. I think we should take the program serious, by paying keen attention to what the teachers tell us.” (Teenage daughter 9)*

From the extract above, the girl is of the opinion that girls do not pay close attention when the instructor is educating them on prevention of teenage pregnancies. This therefore makes the miss out on the valuable teachings at the session. This may be attributed to the fact that a male instructor teaches them, making them uncomfortable and less engaged in the teachings as indicated by Teenage Daughter 2.

*“They don’t tell us how to say no when approached by boys who ask for sex.” (Teenage daughter 9)*

The statement above may imply that the girl observes that the Sexual and Reproductive Health education sessions lack the strategies for turning down sexual advances from boys that approach them. This can be attributed to the structure of the program that doesn’t cover the issue. Social network theory’s application to the study that states an individual’s outcome is dependent on social networks in the society. The support systems in the community that is meant to supplement parental guidance, is supposed to create a strong social network of support around the teenage girl. A failure on the part of the youth program renders this social network ineffective in shaping the the teenage girl’s outcome regarding the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

#### 4.4.5 Government policy has contributed to decline in teenage pregnancy rates

The respondents gave their opinion on government policy's contribution in combating pregnancy rates among teenagers in the community.

**Table 4.7:**

*Government Policy has contributed to decline in Teenage Pregnancy rates*

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	5	3.2
	Disagree	37	23.1
	Neutral	19	12.1
	Agree	63	40.1
	Strongly Agree	34	21.5
	Total		158

In regard to the statement, 'Government policy has contributed to decline in teenage pregnancy rates in your community', majority 63(40.1%) parents agreed that government policy has contributed to decline in teenage pregnancy rates in the community while only 37(23.1%) parents disagreed, and 34(21.5%) parents strongly agreed. The finding may be attributed to the efficiency in enforcement of policies by National Administration Officers and Police Officers towards decline in teenage pregnancy rates in their communities. As revealed by Matanda et al. (2018) who stated that efficient enforcement of laws is the key to combating cases of teenage pregnancy.

Similar findings have been arrived at by Lavin and Cox (2012) who conducted a study on Teen pregnancy prevention in the United States of America, stating that policy changes recommended by stakeholders have contributed to steady decline in adolescent pregnancy and birth rates. Consistent findings were revealed in a study conducted by

Cameron et al. (2020), which highlight the need to develop the current policies to meet the needs of parents and reduce teenage sexual and reproductive health misadventures.

On content analysis of comments of parents who affirmed that government policy has led to decline in teenage pregnancy, it emerged that the government achieved the results through arrest of child abusers, organized seminars on teenage pregnancy prevention, and provision of sanitary towels to girl-child through the school systems. This was in agreement with a study by Kiptoo-Tarus (2020) which said that the Kenyan government is dedicated to guaranteeing there is access to sexual and reproductive health services to teenagers. Some of the remarks made by these parents in support included;

*“There are government barazas on sexual and reproductive health.” (Parent 65)*

From the statement, it implies that parents receive teachings from the respective forums to help their teenage girls in the prevention of teenage pregnancies. This finding is similar to observations by Mutanana, and Mutara, (2015) who conducted a study on Preventive Methods on Teenage Pregnancy in the Rural Populations of Zimbabwe, they found a rise in awareness programs against teenage pregnancy in rural populations, enlightening community groups and religious groups in the population as well as the availing of clinical personnel in local communities with teachings and materials to help teenage girls.

*“The government arrested the person who impregnated my girl and has also been supporting us by giving girls sanitary towels in schools.” (Parent 82)*

It implies from the extract that the parent has complete trust in law enforcement because he sees that the government is committed to the prevention of teenage pregnancies through arresting perpetrators of teenage pregnancy and distribution of sanitary towels

in schools. The distribution of sanitary towels may prevent girls from being bribed to exchange sex for the same.

On the other hand, minority parents with contrary opinion pointed out that the situation is still very bad because of corruption from policy enforcers including local and police administration. These were some of the comments included by the parents:

*“The situation is still very bad. The person who got my daughter pregnant is free because the police and chief are corrupt.” (Parent 126)*

*“Teenage pregnancy is still happening in the community and people do not get arrested.” (Parent 41)*

From the statements, it may suggest that the parents have no faith in the government because they feel is not set to reducing cases of teenage pregnancies. The sentiments may be attributed to corruption in law enforcement and National Administration that sees perpetrators that impregnated teenage girls walking free from arrest and prosecution as per a study by Balita (2022). A different opinion by Ajala, (2014) who conducted a in Nigeria, found that teenage pregnancy prevention is a severe policy mediation area that can best be addressed by government intervention that ensure female teenagers remain in school. This may reveal that the high incidence in the Sub-County is overwhelming for all incidences to be handled satisfactorily. This is crucial to preventing the negative results of early pregnancy and child bearing. Social network theory's application to the study that states for positive outcomes to be realized, law enforcement as one of the networks in the society in the society needs to be effective in order to have an impact in the outcome of prevention of teenage pregnancies, which is not the case here. The cases of inefficiency reduce the impact of law enforcement on arresting the high incidence on teenage pregnancies because according to Bailey et al.

(2016) offenders attracted to minors and have not been apprehended are highly likely to repeat their offences. The extracts from parent 126 and parent 41 who are disgruntled at law enforcement officers differ from parent 82 who lauds the efficiency of law enforcement for arresting the man who impregnated the teenage girl.

**Table 4.8:**

***Influence of Parental Awareness on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy***

		Giving Sexual and Reproductive Health Education	SRH Education Responsibility of parents	Youth Programs Seek Parental Support	Youth Programs on SRH Education can reduce Teenage Pregnancy	Government Policies Contributes to Teenage Pregnancy Rates
Prevention of teenage pregnancy	Pearson Correlation	.42	.36	.51	.60	.44
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.037	.037	.04	.000
	N	156	156	156	158	158

*Mean r = .52*

Table 4.8 shows that parental awareness has moderate (Mean  $r = .52$ ).and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy. Because  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha (.05)$ : The differences between the means are statistically significant. There is statistical evidence ( $P \leq .05$ ) that the level of parental awareness on the selected factors moderately and positively influences prevention of teenage pregnancy

#### 4.5 Parenting strategys in Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy

The second research question responded to was: How does parenting strategies influence prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County?

##### 4.5.1 Being close to your Teenage daughter in knowing her everyday needs help to prevent later risks of Teenage Pregnancy

The respondents were asked if being close to their teenage daughters and in knowing their everyday needs help to prevent later risks of Teenage Pregnancy

**Table 4.9:**

*Being close to your Child in knowing everyday needs help to prevent later risks of Teenage Pregnancy*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages
Valid	Strongly Disagree	11	7.0
	Disagree	15	9.5
	Neutral	55	34.8
	Agree	44	27.8
	Strongly Agree	33	20.9
Total		158	100

Table 4.9 shows that 44(27.8%) parents agreed that being close to their child in knowing the everyday needs helps to prevent later risk of teenage pregnancy, while 55(34.8%) parents were neutral and 33(20.9%) parents strongly agreed. The finding in this study may suggest that parents give basic values at a young age to prevent later risk of teenage pregnancy. Similar findings were observed by Lee et al. (2017) who found that despite peer influence during mid-teenage years being significantly tied to behavioral outcomes in late teenage years, early teenage bonding through parental warmth also has an effect on the teenager's outcomes.

The result shows that five out of ten parents supported the creation of congenial atmosphere help in fulfillment of social and emotional needs of teenage girls, and therefore, could positively influence prevention of teenage pregnancy. This could be attributed to the fact that teenage girls are more responsive to a warm mode of parenting as highlighted by Williams and Steinberg (2011). However, comments from some parents who disagreed indicated that teenage girls were not open to share all their challenges and experienced very strong influence from their friends which possibly compromised the positive effects of parental intimacy and warmth towards their teenage girls. Some of these parents self-reported that:

*“My daughter is not open and never shares out with me her problems however much I try to encourage and prompt her to respond.” (Parent 72)*

From the statement, it suggests that the parent has the opinion that there is communication breakdown that prevents her daughter from confiding her issues. This does not change despite the parent’s attempt to break the gap.

*“She still got pregnant even though I tried to be close to her and support her needs. I am disappointed and embarrassed.” (Parent 59)*

*“She always confided in me and I supported her needs, but was surprised when she got pregnant.” (Parent 81)*

It is suggested from the extract above that there was a lot of communication between the parents and girls. The parents offered a lot of emotional and material support. This however did not prevent the girls’ teenage pregnancy. It may be attributed to the fact that the communication between parents and girls was not exclusively about prevention of teenage pregnancies as also found by Peu (2019). This finding is aligned to the social network theory’s application to the study. The Parenting strategy adopted by the parent may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. The respective Parenting



strategy may determine the strength of the connection between the parent and the teenage girl in the social network, subsequently defining the success or failure in the teenage girl's encounter with predisposing factors to teenage pregnancies.

#### **4.5.2 Involvement in their daughter's decision making prevents their girls contact with bad friends**

The respondents were asked about their opinion on whether their 'involvement in their daughter's decision making prevents contact with bad friends

**Table 4.10:**

*Involvement in your daughter's decision making prevents contact with bad friends*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages
Valid	Strongly Disagree	4	0.0
	Disagree	37	23.4
	Neutral	48	30.4
	Agree	20	15.2
	Strongly Agree	43	27.2
	Total	158	100.0

With regard to the construct, 'involvement in your daughter's decision making prevents contact with bad friends', Table 4.10 indicates that 48(30.4%) parents were neutral on whether involvement in their daughter's decision making prevents their girls contact with bad friends while 43(27.2%)strongly agreed and 37(23.4%) parents disagreed. The finding may imply that parents give emotional support and guidance to their teenage girls to ensure that they avoid negative external influences that may predispose them to early pregnancies.

A similar finding from a study by Commendador (2010) done in the US on influences of parents on adolescent decision making and use of contraceptives revealed that there

is a connection between parental education on prevention of pregnancy, Parenting strategy, teenage sexual practices and use of contraception. Consistent findings were arrived at by Lee et al. (2017) who studied on how parents and teenage friends contribute to teenage outcomes, it states that despite peer influence during mid-teenage years being significantly tied to behavioral outcomes in late teenage years, early teenage bonding through parental warmth also has an effect on the teenager's outcomes.

The findings in this study show that about four out of ten parents believed that supporting their girls would prevent them from leaning on friends for support. This could be attributed to the teenage girl's need for belonging as found by Sentseet al., 2010. The parents indicated that they would want their daughter to avoid bad friends to avoid negative influence of peer pressure, HIV, another pregnancy, and drug abuse.

*"I just want my daughter to avoid bad friends, which is why I try talking to her nicely to bring her closer." (Parent 19)*

It is suggested from the extract above that the parent's improved relationship with her teenage daughter will remove the daughter's need to be with the bad friends. This finding is aligned to the social network theory's application to the study. The Parenting strategy adopted by the parent may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. The respective Parenting strategy may determine the strength of the connection between the parent and the teenage girl in the social network, subsequently defining the success or failure in the teenage girl's encounter with predisposing factors to teenage pregnancies. In this particular case, the parent is using her social connection to the teenage girl to keep her from bad friends that may misguide her thus predisposing her to teenage pregnancy.

### 4.5.3 Personal Contact and Relationship with the Daughter Affects Their Chances of Risky Sexual Behavior

The respondent's level of agreement on the construct that personal contact and relationship with the daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior are presented in table 4.11

**Table 4.11:**

*Personal contact and relationship with the daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages
Valid	Strongly Disagree	11	7.0
	Disagree	32	20.3
	Neutral	37	23.4
	Agree	45	28.5
	Strongly Agree	33	20.9
Total		158	100.0

Table 4.11 reveals that 45(28.5%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that personal contact and relationship with their daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior while 37(23.4%) parents were neutral and 33(20.9%) parents strongly agreed that personal contact and relationship with their daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior. The finding suggests that parents have a close connection to their teenage girls and this helps them keep an eye on any changes the daughter may display.

A different finding was arrived at by Daspe et al. (2019) who researched in Southern California on teenagers who opened up on their friends' and their individual risky activities. The findings of this study reveal that fathers' have a greater impact on a

daughter's successful prevention of early pregnancy and therefore should be more available to them. The findings are however consistent with Mohamed et al. (2017) who after investigating Parental and Peer affiliation and its association with Positive teenage development in Malaysia, concluded that warm parental and peer affiliation were contributing factors towards positive teenage development. The inconsistency in the findings may be attributed to the fact that only the father has been found to be influential in the daughter's outcome as compared to the study by Mohamed et al. that was not specific to a particular parent.

The result shows that about three out of ten parents affirm that creating personal contact and relationship with their daughter(s) negatively affects their chances of risky sexual behavior. According to parents, the risky sexual behavior is motivated through social media, internet use, music, pornographic videos, "sponsors" and bad friends as cited by Wang and Qi (2017).

*"These smart phones are bad, all day she is on Social Media watching videos of people dancing in a dirty way. I try telling her to stop but she quickly forgets after a few days." (Parent 121)*

It is suggested from the extract above that teenage girls do not use phones productively. This finding is aligned to the social network theory's application to the study. The Parenting strategy utilized may establish the intensity of the connection between the parent and the teenage girl. This later informs the teenage girl's outcome in the prevention of teenage pregnancy based on the reaction to the parental advice of avoiding lewd videos that may encourage risky sexual activity.

#### 4.5.4 Teenage girls discuss challenges they are facing with parents

The findings on whether girls discuss challenges they are facing with the respondents are presented in Table 4.12

**Table 4.12:**

*Teenage girls discuss challenges they are facing with parents*

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages
Valid	Strongly Disagree	46	29.1
	Disagree	20	12.7
	Neutral	50	31.6
	Agree	32	20.3
	Strongly Agree	10	6.3
	Total	158	100.0

Regarding the statement, ‘my daughter(s) discuss challenges they are facing with me’, Table 4.12 indicates that 50(31.6%) parents were neutral on whether their daughter(s) discuss challenges they face with them, while 46(29.1%) of parents strongly disagreed, and 32(20.3%) of the parents agreed. This finding may mean that there is a lack of open communication between parents and their girls.

In line with the findings, Callahan et al. (2011) concluded that teenage girls that are often subjected to harsh parental discipline will most likely have various troublesome feelings like anxiousness and a rebellious attitude that predisposes them to early pregnancies. Findings by Li et al.(2015) similarly revealed that teenage girls turn to peers when they cannot open up to parents, even in cases where peers are a bad influence. A similar revelation was made by Wade (2019) who conducted a study in the US titled; Parent to Child Sexual Health Discussions. His analysis of 14 ongoing programs revealed that supportive discussion between parents and their teenage

girlssuccessfully promoted healthy communication among members of the family, consequently reducing risky sexual risky activities. Wade's inconsistency with the findings shows that the values among teenagers are going down.

*"My daughter never tells me what is going on in her life or about her friends. We only talk about school." (Parent 62)*

It is suggested from the extract above that teenage girls do not confide in their parents. According to the social network theory's application to the study, the connection between parentsand teenage girls need to be strong so that teenage girls feel free to share challenges and also open themselves up to parental counsel as cited by Nyangoya (2022). This way, there will be cohesion and this will enable the family to detect and manage predisposing factors to teenage pregnancies. According to the theory, the reduction of teenage pregnancies will happen if the social networks between parents and teenage girls become stronger than the connection between teenage girlsand random individuals who may not have the teenage girl's best interest.

#### **4.5.5 Correction cause rebellious behavior in Teenage Girls**

The findings on how the respondents agreed with 'correction causes rebellious behavior in teenage girls is shown in Table 4.13

**Table 4.13:*****Punitive Corrective Measures causes rebellious behavior in teenage girls***

Levels of Agreement		Frequency	Percentages
Valid	Strongly Disagree	12	7.6
	Disagree	36	22.8
	Neutral	17	10.8
	Agree	53	33.5
	Strongly Agree	40	25.3
Total		158	100.0

The construct, “Punitive Corrective measures cause rebellious behavior in teenage girls” 53(33.5%) parents agreed that correction cause rebellious behavior in teenage girls whereas 40(25.3%) parents strongly agreed and 36(22.8%) parents disagreed that Punitive Corrective measures cause rebellious behavior in teenage girls. This finding may indicate that teenage girls are more responsive to restrained correction techniques and positive affirmation than harsh or punitive punishment. According to the social network theory’s application to the study, parents need to instill corrective discipline in a measured way to keep the bond between them and their teenage girls strong by avoiding harsh methods that may trigger rebellion in teenage that could manifest as risky sexual activities that predispose them to teenage pregnancies as cited by Hinnant *et al.* (2015).

The finding is similar to observations by a study done in Japan on corporal punishment and resulting behavioral problems in teenage girls. It revealed that harsh or frequent corporal punishment in early childhood is a proven triggering factor for later teenage behavioral problems, deviance as well as mental disorder in adulthood (Okuzono et al., 2017). Similar revelations were arrived at by Wang and Qi (2017) who researched on

harsh Parenting strategy, the study showed that harsh parenting significantly motivated a rebellious attitude that is a significant cause of early pregnancies.

On Parenting strategys, majority 6(60%) of teenage girls reported that their parents utilized harsh parenting whereas 4(40%) of teenage girls indicated that their parents utilized warm parenting. This implies that relatively more parents were inclined to using harsh forms of parenting than warm styles.

When the key informants were asked what challenges they experienced as teenagers in harsh parenting towards prevention of teenage pregnancy, most of them reported that they feared their parents and could not freely share their personal issues with them. This agreed with the findings of Sentseet al., (2010) that attributed this to the need for teenage girls to have confidants who they later found among peers. Some of the teenage girls had these to say:

*“I cannot be able to ask them questions about boys and relationships because they might punish me.” (Teenage daughter 5)*

*“My parents used to cane me severely when they heard I talked to boys .This made me to be secretive so they don’t notice me talking to them” (Teenage daughter 4).*

It suggests from the excerpts above that the girls are afraid of the parents’ harsh disposition and imply that their parents are easily triggered to punish their errant ways.

As a result of the parents’ temperament, they avoid their parents’ disapproval at all costs.

*“I get uncomfortable talking to my parent about personal issues.” (Teenage daughter 10)*



This statement implies that the girl gets uncomfortable when sharing her questions, experiences and challenges with her parents, preferring to keep to herself. This may be attributed to a breakdown in communication and lack of openness in the family set up.

Conversely, for key informants who experienced warm parenting towards prevention of teenage pregnancy, most of them reported negatively exploiting the warmth. This may be attributed to family values consistent with a study by Gracia et al. (2012). Some of the teenage girls said:

*“Sometimes I come home a bit late because I know I will not be beaten.”  
(Teenage daughter 1)*

*“My parents cannot buy me sanitary pads regularly and they don’t ask where I get them from.” (Teenage daughter 6)*

*“She lets me visit my friends on the weekends.” (Teenage daughter 3)*

From the above statements, it suggests that the girls are left to make their own decisions under very permissive parenting. The teenage girls may then take advantage of the permissive environment, predisposing them to making serious mistakes. According to the social network theory’s application to the study, the teenage girl’s outcome is dependent on her social network, a social network that is not careful to guide her against risky sexual activities will not help her have a positive outcome in the prevention of teenage pregnancies. According to the theory, the decrease of incidences of teenage pregnancies will occur if families are effective in ensuring children are protected from making poor life choices as a result of too much permissiveness.

**Table 4.14:*****Influence of Parenting strategy in Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy***

		Being Close to your Daughter	Involvement in Decision of your Daughter	Personal Contacts & Responsibility	Discussion of Sensitive Challenges	Punitive Correction Leading to Rebellion
Parenting strategy & Prevention of teenage Pregnancy	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2- tailed) N	.49 .000 158	.40 .000 158	.51 .000 158	.25 .051 158	.58 .005 158

*Mean r = .45*

Table 4.14 show that Parenting strategy has moderate and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy ( $r = .45$ ). Because  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha (.05)$ : The differences between some of the means are statistically significant except for the construct of ‘discussion of sensitive challenges’. There is statistical evidence ( $P \leq .05$ ) that the Parenting strategy adopted moderately and positively influences prevention of teenage pregnancy (Mean  $r = .45$ ).

#### **4.6 Parental Socio-Cultural status in Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy**

The third research question responded to was: How does parental Socio-Cultural status influence prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County? In order to answer the research question, parents were asked in the questionnaire to score how strongly they agreed to the statements. The results of analysis are presented in Table 4.15.

**Table 4.15:*****Influence of Socio-Cultural Status on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy***

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>N</b>
Most pregnant teenagers come from poor homes	34 (22.0%)	27 (17.5%)	29 (18.8%)	35 (22.7%)	29 (18.8%)	154
Teenage girls get into sexual activities in order to meet basic needs	24 (15.3%)	15 (9.6%)	50 (32.0%)	42 (26.9%)	25 (16.0%)	156
Cultural norms are obstacles that prevents parents from educating teenage girls on sexual health	18 (11.8%)	10 (6.5%)	35 (23.0%)	51 (33.5%)	38 (25.0%)	152
Cultural norms may encourage early marriages	10 (6.4%)	24 (15.3%)	25 (16%)	25 (16.0%)	47 (30.1%)	156
Traditionally initiated teenage girls should be left to make their own decision	40 (25.3%)	53 (33.5%)	17 (10.7%)	36 (22.7%)	12 (7.5%)	158

**4.6.1 Pregnant teenagers come from poor homes**

Table 4.15 indicates that 64(41.5%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that most pregnant teenagers come from poor homes, while 29(18.8%) parents neither agreed nor disagreed and 61(39.6%) parents disagreed. This finding may reveal that girls affected by teenage pregnancies usually do so while trying to seek financial benefits from male partners in exchange for sex. In line with the findings, Krugu, et al. (2017) in a qualitative review of determinants associated with early pregnancy among teenagers with pregnancy experience in Ghana, found that teenagers' motivations for getting into sexual relationships are mainly 'beyond love' and seem to focus on financial gain. This conclusion is similar to findings from a study done in Nigeria by Dareet al. (2016) on psychosocial effects of pregnancy on teenage mothers in AngwanRukuba community in

Nigeria; the study discovered that the major influence accountable for teenage pregnancy was poverty.

*“In my community, teenage pregnancy has befallen girls of the rich and poor parents, which to me mean all families, are affected.” (Parent 55)*

*“Some of the girls have everything but still got pregnant.” (Parent 97)*

From the excerpts above, it implies that teenage pregnancies are not limited to girls coming from a specific socio-economic background. This may be attributed to the fact that teenage girls get into intimate relationships for different reasons regardless of Socio-Economic background as found by Svanemyr (2019).

*“Girls from poor families are lured to have sex because they need money from sponsors and boyfriends.” (Parent 19)*

It implies from the above statement that to the parent, girls from destitute families supplement meager family income by getting favors from boyfriends who may eventually get them pregnant. According to the Social Network theory’s application to the study, the teenage girl’s outcome is dependent upon her social networks in the community. This means that men, who notice the teenage girl’s desperation and decide to take advantage of it, will eventually ask for sexual favors exposing her to the risk of pregnancy.

#### **4.6.2 Teenage girls get into Sexual activities in order to meet their Basic Needs**

As regards to the construct, ‘teenage girls get into sexual activities in order to meet basic needs’, Table 4.15 shows that 67(42.9%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that teenage girls get into sexual activities in order to meet their basic needs whereas 50(32.0%) parents neither agreed nor disagreed and 39(25.0%) parents disagreed or

strongly disagreed. The finding may imply that girls are lacking in basic necessities that places them in a desperate situation, compelling them to trade sex for the essentials. This predisposes them to early pregnancies.

Consistent findings by Izugbara (2015) revealed that mostly poor households were affected by early pregnancies as compared to wealthy households. This confirms earlier research by McCleary-Sillset al. (2013) on Gendered social norms, sexual exploitation and teenage pregnancy in rural parts of Tanzania, which revealed that teenage pregnancies are triggered by poverty that pushes teenage girls into having sex in order to obtain money to meet basic needs.

The key informant interview finding revealed that teenage girls engage in sex to reciprocate their boyfriends for the material and financial support. Two teenage girls in an interview remarked that;

*“My parents do not have enough money to buy me everything like pads. So my boyfriend asks for sex before buying them.” (Teenage daughter 3)*

*“Sometimes I have to depend on my boyfriend to give me things like airtime and pocket money. It makes it difficult to refuse sex after that.” (Teenage daughter 8)*

From the excerpts above it implies that the only way for the teenagers to meet their needs that cannot be met by meager family income is by getting boyfriends who insist on sex in exchange of favors. This may end up resulting in teenage pregnancies. This is in line with the Social Network theory's application to the study, the teenage girl's outcome in terms of pregnancy prevention relies upon the people she relates within the community, some may want to take advantage of the girls need for money, asking for sex in exchange, exposing her to the risk of pregnancy.

### **4.6.3 Cultural norms are obstacles that prevent parents from educating teenage girls on sexual health**

Table 4.15 indicates that majority 89(58.5%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that Cultural norms are obstacles that prevent parents from educating teenage girls on sexual health, whereas 35(23.0%) parents neither agreed nor disagreed and 28(18.4%) parents disagreed or strongly disagreed. This finding suggests that parents hold Cultural norms have a strong influence in parenting and make parents value culture above the education of the teenage girls. This may leave girls unaware of techniques that should be applied in prevention of early pregnancy.

Inconsistent observations were found by Modise (2019) who researched on parent Sexual and Reproductive Health education norms in rural parts of South Africa, he discovered that parents were more at ease participating in the education with their teenage girls rather than the younger teenage girls. These findings are contrasted by Baku et al. (2017) who researched on Socio-Cultural factors influencing parent-teenager conversations on Sexual and Reproductive Health education in Ghana; they revealed that parents faulted cultural norms for keeping them from discussing sex topics with teenagers. This inconsistency may be attributed to a difference in cultural values between the two regions.

The findings are in line with the projection by Social Network Theory as explained by Vicsek et al. (2016); this is because data shows that a majority of parents find themselves tied to a large societal system that depends on Cultural norms in socialization. The societal system is very large that it affects parent to child relation.

This happens when the parents find it hard to defy the large social systems thus failing to educate their girls on sexual health.

Also, analysis of the comments of parents pointed out that Sexual and Reproductive Health education between parents and teenage girls is a taboo. Some of the comments made by these parents included:

*“Our culture says that education on prevention of pregnancy is immoral and it would not be okay to discuss such issues with teenage girls.” (Parent 73)*

*“Talking about sex with my girls is a taboo and not acceptable issue to talk about with teenagers, it may give them ideas.” (Parent 26)*

From the statements above it may imply that to parents, Sexual and Reproductive Health education is misplaced in the family set up because of cultural constraints. The finding is similar to observations by Roudsari et al. (2013) who found that the major Socio-Cultural impediments to sexual health education for teenagers are taboos in their culture surrounding sexuality. It makes the parents very uncomfortable to bring up the topic. This leaves girls unsupported in strategies of early pregnancy prevention thus predisposing them to the same.

#### **4.6.4 Cultural Norms May Encourage Early Marriages**

Figure 4.15 shows that majority 129(82.6%) of parents agreed that Cultural norms may encourage early marriages, while 25(16.0%) parents neither agreed nor disagreed and 2(1.2%) parents disagreed. This finding implies that cultural norms that often instill a negative influence in a parent's and society's perception towards prevention of teenage pregnancy is still widely accepted and practiced.

According to the Social Network Theory's application to the study, the vulnerability of the girl when it comes to getting pregnant is dependent on how the family handles the cultural norms that surround them. Once the parents subscribe to the cultural norms that encourage early marriage, the child is immediately at risk of becoming a bride to any member of the community who may show interest in marrying her. Moturi (2016) revealed that most marriages have pregnancy as an inevitable and expected result, making teenagers automatically exposed to pregnancies because of the marriage.

A study done by Archambault (2011) on ethnographic empathy and the social context of rights, had similar findings revealing that early marriage practices in Ethiopia are motivated by established beliefs and cultural norms that are not easily discouraged through logical arguments. Consistent findings were arrived at by Svanemyr (2019) who researched on teenage pregnancy and social norms that occur in Zambia. The study found cultural norms dictating sexual behavior and contraceptive use, add to place teenage girls in a vulnerable state with respect to early pregnancy.

The conclusions by Archambault and Svanemyr reveal that not only will teenage girls be married off but in addition to the marriage, cultural restrictions on use of contraceptives may add the risk of teenage pregnancy. This adds the probability of higher incidence of teenage pregnancy because the teenage girls who are already at risk of pregnancy from marriage; will additionally be restricted from use of contraceptives that would have prevented pregnancy until the attainment of legal childbearing age.

*“My father says that I will have to move in with the person that got me pregnant or life will be hard for me as a single mother.” (Teenage daughter 4)*



From the extract above it implies that the parent has no problem sending off the teenage daughter into marriage because of the pregnancy. This finding is in line with the Social Network theory's application to the study that postulates the teenage girl's outcome in terms of prevention of additional pregnancies is at the mercy of the cultural norms that the father subscribes to that normalize marrying off teenagers.

#### **4.6.5 Traditionally initiated teenage girls should be left to make their own decisions**

Table 4.15 show that majority 117(74.0%) parents disagreed or strongly disagreed on the construct; "traditionally initiated teenage girls should be left to make their own decisions" whereas 20(12.6%) parents neither agreed nor disagreed and 21(13.2%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that traditionally initiated teenage girls should be independent. This finding may indicate that there is a shift in the cultural norms and parents are beginning to feel responsible for their teenage girls and intend to keep guiding them.

A different conclusion was arrived at by Stark (2016) who noted that in the traditional context, puberty marked the beginning of adulthood, in Tanzanian teenage girls are perceived as an autonomous adult who are expected to find men to sustain them. Similarly TeLindert et al. (2021) found that teenage pregnancy in the region of Tanzania is high because teenage girls lack individual agency which comprise of peer pressure, low decision-making strength, and sexual coercion.

This inconsistency in the findings may be attributed to strong legal and policy framework that has been put in place against early marriages in Kenya as cited by

Nkhoma et al. (2020). Content analysis of comments by parents observed that parents were against any form of independence to teenage girls. Such comments included:

*“It is illegal, the government does not allow it and one can be arrested for allowing early marriage, also, the girl still depends on me to provide for her basic needs.” (Parent 63)*

From the statement above, it implies that the parent recognizes the legal age limit as a hindrance to teenage pregnancy. Additionally, since the teenage daughter is still dependent on her, early marriage would be unacceptable

*“She is young and not ready for marriage. Therefore, she will be mistreated because she cannot be as hard-working as a mature woman.” (Parent 122)*

It is suggested from the above extract that the parent recognizes the fact that the teenage daughter is still not mature enough to protect herself from people who would want to take advantage of her. Therefore, she should be under her protection until she is mature enough to protect herself from abusers.

When the key informants were asked challenges that Cultural norms and beliefs have on prevention of teenage pregnancy, most of them reported that Cultural norms and beliefs promoted teenage pregnancy. Some of the teenage girls said:

*“My parents believe that youth programs are bad and girls are only taught how to sleep with men.” (Teenage daughter 2)*

From the above statement, it suggests that parents view youth programs with suspicion and view activities such as demonstration on contraceptive use as immoral.

*“My parents cannot talk about any topic on sex. They even switch off the television when people are kissing.” (Teenage daughter 6)*

It implies from the above extract that the girl views culture as an obstacle to any discussion on educative sex topics. It may have also made the parents to censor what the

girl watches on TV to limit her exposure to intimate expressions like kissing, believing that such exposure will make the daughter sexually active.

*“Boys believe that having sex without condom is more enjoyable.” (Teenage daughter 7)*

*“My boyfriend thinks I am mature enough and wants me to run away with him and start a family.” (Teenage daughter 9)*

From the above statements, it may indicate that boys do not care about the prevention of teenage pregnancies, this may be attributed to the fact that they do not suffer as much repercussions as girls do as cited by Zulaika (2022) who found that more boys joined High School as compared to girls because most girls got pregnant. They only seek out ways to have enjoyable experiences without any regard for the consequences to the teenage girls.

*“Sometimes I have to depend on my boyfriend to give me things like airtime and pocket money. It makes it difficult to refuse sex after that.” (Teenage daughter 8)*

This finding is in line with the Social Network theory’s application to the study, the teenage girl’s outcome in terms of pregnancy prevention relies upon the people she relates within the community, some men in teenage girls’ social networks exploit the girls need for money, demanding for sex before buying gifts, exposing her to the risk of pregnancy in the process.

**Table 4.16:*****Extent of Influence of Parental socio-Cultural Background on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy***

		Pregnant teenagers Coming from Poor Homes	Engage in Sexual Activities to meet basic Needs	Cultural Norms are obstacles to Sexual Health	Cultural Norms Encourages Early Marriages	Trad. Initiated Teenagers to be left to Make own Decisions
Socio – Cultural Status Vs Prevention of teenage Pregnancy	Pearson Correlation	.49	.40	.51	.60	.70
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.568	.250
	N	154	156	152	156	158

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*Mean r = .54*

Table 4.16 show that parental socio – cultural status has moderate and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy (Mean  $r = .54$ ). Because  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$  (.05): The differences between the means are statistically significant. There is statistical evidence ( $P \leq .05$ ) that the parental socio – cultural status moderately and positively influences prevention of teenage pregnancy (Mean  $r = .54$ ).

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter introduces the summary of key findings, conclusions and recommendations of this study. The study sought to investigate the impediments to parental prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya. Assessed the contribution of parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, determined the influence of Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, and examined the influence of parental Socio-Cultural environment on prevention of teenage pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County.

#### **5.2 SUMMARY**

On parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies, The study established that 48(30.4%) parents agreed that giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education to teenage girls reduces cases of teenage pregnancy while 31(19.6%) parents disagreed and 30(19.0%) parents strongly disagreed. 41.1% of parents were primary school certificate holders and at this educational level, they may not have received any formal education on sexual and reproductive health. Table 4.4 shows that 51(32.4%) parents were neutral on whether reduction of teenage pregnancy through giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education is their responsibility, however, 38(24.1%) parents strongly disagreed, and 32(20.2%) parents disagreed. With regard to whether youth programs sought support of parents in prevention of teenage pregnancy, Table 4.5 reveals that 48(29.7%) parents agreed that youth programs sought support of parents in

prevention of teenage pregnancy while a paltry 41(25.9%) parents disagreed and 33(20.8%) parents strongly agreed. majority 63(40.1%) parents agreed that government policy has contributed to decline in teenage pregnancy rates in the community while only 37(23.1%) parents disagreed, and 34(21.5%) parents strongly agreed. Parents are aware of the efficiency of Sexual and Reproductive Health education towards prevention of teenage pregnancies. Due to cultural values and educational status, they deny the responsibility of giving Sexual and Reproductive Health education to their girls. They however trust the efficiency of youth programs and government policy towards the prevention of teenage pregnancies. This is in line with the social network theory's assumption in the study that the teenage girl's outcome is dependent on her social networks. The postulation is applied in the study where a parent's level of awareness on teenage pregnancy prevention may influence the successful prevention of teenage pregnancies. This is because it will inform the guidance that the teenage girl will receive.

Regarding Parenting strategy towards prevention of teenage pregnancy, Table 4.10 indicates that 48(30.4%) parents were neutral on whether involvement in their daughter's decision making prevents their girls contact with bad friends while 43(27.2%) strongly agreed and 37(23.4%) parents disagreed. Table 4.11 reveals that 45(28.5%) parents agreed or strongly agreed that personal contact and relationship with their daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior while 37(23.4%) parents were neutral and 33(20.9%) parents strongly agreed that personal contact and relationship with their daughter affects their chances of risky sexual behavior. As regarding the statement, 'my daughter(s) discuss challenges they are facing with me',

Table 4.12 indicates that 50(31.6%) parents were neutral on whether their daughter(s) don't discuss challenges they are facing with them, while 46(29.1%) of parents strongly disagreed, and 32(20.3%) of the parents agreed. This finding may mean that the lack of open communication between parents and their girls. The construct, "Punitive Corrective measures cause rebellious behavior in teenage girls" 53(33.5%) parents agreed that correction cause rebellious behavior in teenage girls whereas 40(25.3%) parents strongly agreed and 36(22.8%) parents disagreed. The harsh parenting and punitive correction techniques used by parents towards prevention of teenage pregnancies, causes rebellious behavior towards the parent's authority and guidance. Warm parenting however overrides negative peer influence, enabling teenagers to share challenges with their parents and have good outcomes, avoiding early pregnancies. This is in line with the social network theory's assumption in the study that the teenage girl's outcome is dependent on her social networks. The Parenting strategy adopted by the parent may influence the prevention of teenage pregnancies. A parent who guides the teenage girls against factors that may predispose her to teenage pregnancies while at the same time keeping the parent-child connection strong, will increase the teenage girl's chance of successfully preventing teenage pregnancies.

As regards Parental Socio-cultural status, The study has revealed that because of Cultural norms on parent-child relations, respondents are restricted from discussions on certain topics, preventing them from taking their teenage girls through Sexual and Reproductive Health Education. The study also concludes that most pregnant teenagers come from poor homes, a view held by a majority (41.5%) of respondents. Teenagers mainly get into sexual relationships in order to meet basic needs as indicated by a

majority (42.9%) of respondents, this exposes the teenagers to pregnancies as they do so. A majority of the respondents (82.6%) agree that cultural norms encourage early marriages. The study revealed that pregnant teenagers come from poor homes and mostly get into sexual relationships in order to meet basic needs. Parents agreed that Cultural norms are obstacles that prevent them from educating teenage girls on sexual health, and that Cultural norms may encourage early marriages, On parental Socio-Cultural status towards prevention of teenage pregnancy, The study found that parental socio – cultural status has moderately and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy. This is in line with the assumption of the Social Network Theory's application to this study, that the family unit's outcome in terms of teenage pregnancies is influenced by the cultural norms that surround the respondents.

### **5.3 CONCLUSIONS**

Parental awareness has been found to have moderate and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy (at P-value < .05 Mean r = .52).

Parenting strategies have a low and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy (at P value < .05 Mean r = .45).

Parental socio – cultural status has moderate and positive influence on prevention of teenage pregnancy (at P value < .05 Mean r = .54).

### **5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Study recommends that The Directorate of Children's Services to provide age appropriate materials that guide parents on how to implement Home Based Sexual and Reproductive Health Education.



The Study recommends to the Directorate of Children's services to upscale forums in Narok North Sub County where parents and teens communicate candidly on sexuality by having them as after school programs in line with the National Plan of Action for Children framework (2008-2012).

The Study recommends to the Ministry of Health to set up implementation of the National Plan of Action on Adolescents and Teenage Pregnancy of 2019 aimed at intensifying community workshops that create awareness among parents on cultural norms that predispose teenage girls to pregnancies.

#### **5.4.1 Suggestion for Further Studies**

The study sought to investigate the impediments to parental pregnancies in Narok-North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya. It specifically assessed parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies, determined Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies and examined parental socio-cultural status in prevention of teenage pregnancies. However, the study did not tackle Peer relations comprehensively. Further Research should be done on Peer influence on Parental prevention of teenage pregnancies.

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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MAIN RESPONDENTS

My name is ElonAkuno of Admission No. MSOC/6008/2018. I am pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Sociology at Rongo University, School of Arts, Social Sciences and Business Studies. I am currently doing an academic research on “BARRIERS TO PARENTAL PREVENTION OF TEENAGE PREGNANCIES IN NAROK-NORTH SUB-COUNTY, NAROK COUNTY, KENYA” Please assist me conduct this research by answering the questions listed in this questionnaire. All information you give me will be handled with utmost confidentiality.

Do you consent to participate in the study? YES  NO

#### SECTION A: Demographic Information

1. What is your gender?

- a) Male [ ]
- b) Female [ ]
- c) Others [ ]

2. What is your highest level of Education?

- a) Primary [ ]
- b) Secondary [ ]
- c) College/Tertiary institution [ ]
- d) University [ ]

3. What is your employment status?

- a) Formal [ ]
- b) Self Employed [ ]
- c) Unemployed [ ]
- d) Retired [ ]

4. Averagely how much do you earn per month?

- a) 0-5000 [ ]
- b) 5001-10000 [ ]
- c) 10001-15000 [ ]
- d) 15001-20000 [ ]
- e) 20000 & above [ ]

**Section B: To assess parental awareness on prevention of teenage pregnancies**

*(Instruction: circle the appropriate choice where asked).*

(1) Strongly Disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neutral (4) Agree (5) Strongly Agree

Giving teachings on sexual and reproductive health to your teenage girls reduces cases of teenage pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5	Give reasons for your answer a. b. c.
Reduction of teenage pregnancy through sexual and reproductive health teachings is your responsibility	1	2	3	4	5	Give reasons for your answer a. b. c.
Youth programs seek my support in prevention of teenage pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5	What kind of support do they seek from you? a. b. c.
Youth programs can reduce cases	1	2	3	4	5	Which youth programs help in

of teenage pregnancy						reduction of teenage pregnancies?  a.  b.  c.
Government laws have contributed to decline in teenage pregnancy rates in your community	1	2	3	4	5	Give reasons for your answer  a.  b.  c.
Parental awareness of the prevention strategies of teenage pregnancy can control teenage pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5	

8. As a parent, what are the challenges you encounter in the efforts to prevent teenage pregnancies through pregnancy prevention teachings?

- a.
- b.
- c.

9. What solutions can help solve the challenges faced in preventing teenage pregnancies through pregnancy prevention teachings?

- a.
- b.
- c.

10. Which methods of pregnancy prevention are you aware of?

- a.
- b.
- c.

**SECTION C: To determine the influence of Parenting strategy in prevention of teenage pregnancies**

*(Instruction: circle the appropriate choice where asked).*

(1) Strongly Disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neutral (4) Agree (5) Strongly Agree

Being close to your child in knowing the everyday needs helps to prevent later risk of teenage pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5	Give reasons for your answer  a.  b.  c.
Your involvement in your daughter's decision making prevents contact with bad	1	2	3	4	5	Why would you want your daughter to avoid

friends					bad friends? a. b. c.
Your personal contact and relationship with your daughter affects her chances of risky sexual behavior	1	2	3	4	5 What encourages risky sexual behavior? Rank them a. b. c.
Your relationship with your girls make them able to discuss challenges they are facing	1	2	3	4	5 Give reasons for your answer a. b. c.
In your parenting, correction does not cause rebellious behavior	1	2	3	4	5 How do you discipline your

						girls? a. b. c.
--	--	--	--	--	--	--------------------------

6. Which Parenting strategy do you use? (Warm parenting or harsh parenting)

7. In what area were you not effective in parenting your girl?

8. What modes would you recommend for prevention of teenage pregnancy?

a.

b.

c.

**SECTIOND: To establish the influence of parental Socio-Cultural status on prevention of teenage pregnancies**

*(Instruction: circle the appropriate choice where asked).*

(1) Strongly Disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neutral (4) Agree (5) Strongly Agree

Most pregnant teenagers come from poor homes						Give reasons for your answer a. b. c.
	1	2	3	4	5	

<p>Teenage girls get into sexual activities in order to meet basic needs</p>	1	2	3	4	5	<p>What risk do girls face through this?</p> <p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p>
<p>Cultural norms are the obstacles that prevents me from educating your girls on sexual and reproductive health.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	<p>What part of culture prevents you from educating your girls on sexual health?</p> <p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p>
<p>Cultural norms may encourage early marriages</p>	1	2	3	4	5	<p>What risk do girls face through this?</p> <p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p>
<p>Your sexually mature girls should be independent</p>	1	2	3	4	5	<p>Give reasons for your answer</p> <p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p>

6. What kinds of necessities do you provide for your girls?

- a.
- b.
- c.

7. In your view as a parent, what are the Cultural norms and beliefs that are weakening your efforts to prevent teenage pregnancies? What is your suggestion to solve these Cultural norms and beliefs?

Cultural norms	Solutions
1.	
2.	
3.	

Beliefs	Solutions
1.	
2.	
3.	



## **APPENDIX II: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE**

My name is ElonAkuno of Admission No. MSOC/6008/2018. I am pursuing a Master degree in Sociology at Rongo University, School of Arts and Social Sciences. I am currently doing an academic research on “BARRIERS TO PARENTAL PREVENTION OF TEENAGE PREGNANCIES IN NAROK-NORTH SUB-COUNTY, NAROK COUNTY, KENYA” Please assist me conduct this research by responding to a few questions I shall ask. All information you give me will be handled with utmost confidentiality.

### **Section A**

1. Do your parents take you through sexual and reproductive health teachings in prevention of teenage pregnancies? **Yes** [  ] **No** [  ]
2. If yes in question 1, what challenges do you face in the sexual and reproductive health teachings done by parents towards prevention of teenage pregnancies?
3. What should be done to solve the challenges you face in the sexual and reproductive health teachings done by parents in prevention of teenage pregnancies?
4. Have you been participating in youth programs that try to reduce cases of teenage pregnancy? **Yes** [  ] **No** [  ]
5. If yes in question 4, what challenges do you face in the youth programs in prevention of teenage pregnancies?
6. What should be done to solve the challenges you face in the youth programs in prevention of teenage pregnancies?

### **SECTIONB**

1. In your observation, which Parenting strategy does your parent utilize at home?
2. What challenges have you experienced as a teenager in the Parenting strategy (in question 1) towards prevention of teenage pregnancies?
3. In your opinion, how can challenges you experienced in the Parenting strategy be overcome?

4. Which approach would be the best for your parents to use with you towards prevention of teenage pregnancies?

### **SECTIONC**

1. What challenges does family level of income have on prevention of teenage pregnancy?
2. Which solutions would solve the challenge brought about by level of income on prevention of teenage pregnancy?
3. What challenge do Cultural norms and beliefs have on prevention of teenage pregnancies?
4. Which solutions do you think will solve the challenge brought by Cultural norms and beliefs on prevention of teenage pregnancies?

### **APPENDIX III: PARENT/CAREGIVER CONSENT FOR CHILD**

#### **PARTICIPATION**

My name is Elon Akuno, a student pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in sociology at Rongo University. I am conducting a study on ‘BARRIERS TO PARENTAL PREVENTION OF TEENAGE PREGNANCIES’.

I would like to interview your daughter who is eligible to participate in the study. The study will make every effort to protect her privacy and maintain confidentiality of all the information she will provide. Her name or other identifiers will not be included in reports from this study. There will be no risk in her participation.

Do you consent for your daughter to participate in the study? **YES**  **NO**

**APPENDIX IV: PLACEMENT OF NAROK COUNTY IN KENYA**



*POSITION OF NAROK COUNTY IN THE KENYAN MAP*

*SOURCE: NAROK COUNTY WEBSITE*



## APPENDIX VI: RONGO UNIVERSITY INTRODUCTION LETTER



OFFICE OF THE DEAN  
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

**Email address:** [graduatestudies@rongovarsity.ac.ke](mailto:graduatestudies@rongovarsity.ac.ke)

P.O. Box 103 - 4040  
**RONGO**

Our Ref: **MSOC/6008/2018**

**Date:** Monday, June 15, 2020

The Chief Executive Officer,  
National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation,  
off Waiyaki Way, Upper Kabete,  
P.O Box 30623-00100,  
**Nairobi-KENYA.**

Dear Sir,

**RE: RESEARCH PERMIT FOR MR. MIDIGO ELON AKUNO-MSOC/6008/2018**

We wish to inform you that the above person is a bona fide graduate student of Rongo University in the School of Arts and Social Sciences pursuing a Masters degree in Sociology. He has been authorized by the University to undertake research titled; "**Barriers Parental Prevention Of Teenage Pregnancies In Narok North Sub-County, Narok County, Kenya**".

This is, therefore, to request the commission to issue him with a research permit to enable him proceed for field work.

Your assistance is highly appreciated.

Thank you.

Dr. Edward Anino

**DEAN, SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

Copy to: Vice Chancellor  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs),  
Dean, School of Arts and Social Sciences  
HoD, Social Sciences




**APPENDIX VII: NACOSTI RESEARCH LICENSE**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

RefNo: 461983

**RESEARCH LICENSE**




**This is to Certify that Mr. Elon Midigo Akino of Rong'o University, has been licensed to conduct research in Narok on the topic: BARRIERS TO PARENTAL PREVENTION OF TEENAGE PREGNANCIES IN NAROK NORTH SUB COUNTY, NAROK COUNTY for the period ending : 29/June/2021.**

License No: NACOSTI/P/20/5506

Applicant Identification Number: 461983

Director General  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

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