

Pattern of unintended pregnancy and underlying factors to contraceptive use among unmarried out-of-school women

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BACKGROUND

Unintended pregnancy has been identified as one of the contributing factors to high maternal mortality in Nigeria. The contraceptive prevalence rate of 10% among Nigerian women is considered low compared to other African countries (PRB, 2016). This study sought to explore pattern of unintended pregnancy and contraceptive use among out-of-school unmarried women in Lagos state, Nigeria.

Methodology

The study adopted a mixed method research approach consisting of quantitative and qualitative research method. The quantitative study was conducted among 372 unmarried out-of-school females aged 10 to 24 years using a self-administered questionnaire while the qualitative method involved FGD using an interview guide. Quantitative data was processed using STATA and analyzed at the Univariate and bivariate level while qualitative data was analyzed using thematic approach of verbal reporting.

Results

About 13% are currently pregnant, 29% reported having had an unintended pregnancy before and 11.2% reported they have had abortion. Age was significantly associated with unintended pregnancy as prevalence for unintended pregnancy increases with age.

Conclusion

Beliefs and perception about modern contraceptive methods remains a key factor influencing low contraceptive prevalence with unintended pregnancy being high in the study area. There is need for strengthening framework on female education and fertility control measures in study area.

About 78% reported not currently using any form of Contraceptive method. Focus group participants believes perceived side effects- delayed pregnancy, damaged womb, bleeding affects many women decision to use modern contraceptive

characteristics	% ever had an unintended pregnancy	Number of women	P value
Living status			
Father	19.1	47	0.002
Mother	34.4	183	
Guardian	35.8	53	
Both parent	8.9	45	
Age group			
10-14	0	15	0.001*
15-19	17.9	195	
20-24	48.8	129	
Age at first sex			
10-14	20.7	29	0.024
15-19	35.4	178	
20-24	55.6	27	
Education			
Primary	32.4	74	0.405
Secondary	27.5	262	
Religion			
Christian	28.6	196	0.645
Islam	29.8	141	

Distribution of Respondents by Contraceptive Use

