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THE IMPACT OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL GIRLS IN NAROK NORTH SUB COUNTY

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to investigate the impact of teenage pregnancy on academic achievement of girls in secondary schools and also to look at the educators perceptions of the effects of teenage pregnancy on the behaviour of secondary school learners in Narok North sub county. The study sought to establish whether teenage pregnancy has an effect on school attendance, school performance and emotional behaviour of pregnant learners as perceived by educators. The study was guided by ABC framework theory. Twenty educators from ten secondary schools in Narok North sub county were purposively sampled for the study. Data was collected using questionnaires to allow the researcher a platform to ask closed ended questions and to explore the educators perspectives about the effects of teenage pregnancy. The data was analysed thematically by carefully identifying and expanding significant themes that emerged from the informants perceptions about the effects of teenage pregnancy. Based on the evidence obtained from the study, the following recommendations have been suggested to guide policy decisions that would help reduce the incidence of teenage pregnancy. Firstly, given the educational, social, economic, and employment histories common among teenage parents, career development is a priority for helping this group make the transition from adolescence to economic independence. These early parents are in special need of psychosocial development, life skills development, career awareness, and job skills development. Governments should prioritize the career development of teenage mothers.