

Parents' Perception of the Adolescents' Attitudes towards Premarital Sex

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ABSTRACT The study was aimed to identify the parents' view and perceptions of their adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex. Two research questions and two hypotheses were formulated. The instrument used for data collection was a questionnaire for the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex (AATPSQ). The statistical analyses used were means and standard deviations for the research questions and a t-test for the hypotheses. The findings, among others, revealed that the male adult parents have no less than 21 permissive attitudes towards adolescents' premarital sex, while their female counterparts have 14 permissive attitudes toward premarital sex. Gender has a significant influence on the adult parents' views on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex. It was however recommended among others that the State Education Commission should work in collaboration with the curriculum designers to plan how best the adolescents in schools could be helped with sex and sex-related matters.

INTRODUCTION

Human beings are a class of primates known as *Homo sapiens*, which means "the modern man" or the wise man with the highest brain capacity (1700 cc) among all creatures. That is why human beings are considered the most civilized of all living beings on earth (Olayinka 1992). In contrast to other primates, human sexual behavior is strongly determined by cultural and social influences. All societies have to place some degree of regulation upon impulse control.

In the traditional Nigerian society, sex outside marriage was seen as repugnant and forbidden, and people were not expressing their opinions and views on love, sex and marriage openly. Ukachi (2000: 14) emphasized, "The ancient African was far from being an abode of *laissez-faire* morality. There were strict moral principles that determined the code of conduct. An established moral code guided individual members regarding the social behaviors". Moreover, it was a feature for both, the bride and the groom to be ignorant about sexual act until the night of their marriage. Such was the practice for most Nigerian communities. Also, social punishments like songs of contempt and degradation meted out at marriage, to brides that lost their virginity before the marriage night, made most girls refrain from premarital sex experiences. They strove

to maintain the good name of their families (Eze 1999).

Furthermore, the advent of Christianity also strengthened the restrictive attitude towards premarital sexual expressions. Schools were built and managed by missionaries and very stringent codes of conduct were imposed on heterosexual activities. They aimed to prevent children engaging in any type of sexual activity, which was regarded as an act of immorality and sin against God. In the recent past, western societies such as Europe and America underwent a radical change in their attitude towards sex. Eze (2004) said the weight of evidence from social attitude and behaviors among the western adults and youths. This sexual revolution, as the trend is often called, is in fact, one of the most striking features of the Western socio-cultural milieu today.

Also as a result of this sexual revolution in the Western world, sex became glorified and commercialized, and all types of behaviors such as nudity, homosexuality, premarital sex and the likes were being experimented on. In some cases, even legalized pornographic magazines, novels and a large number of books have been published. According to Armstrong (1992: 16), "we live in a crazy world".

Onyemelukwe (2013) explained that in contemporary time, Nigerian youths have joined the

sex revolution in Europe and America. The impact of alien ideas and cultures, mass communication and conditions of urban life on the behavior and attitude of Nigerian adolescents cannot be overemphasized. There has been extensive interest, inquiry and curiosity in premarital sexual activities. The adolescents are exposed to sexual stimuli through magazines, television and the movies to a greater extent compared to earlier times, thereby creating a general trend towards a liberated attitude and values that encourage open discussion on sexuality, once considered a taboo. Reiss (2006) agreed that the opinions and attitudes of the present day youths towards sex are becoming more liberal and permissive, and this is as a result of permissive environment in the society.

In addition, it has been asserted that the rate of premarital sexual occurrence in the society is very high (Clayton and Bokemeier 2000; Medora and Woodward 2002; Roche 2006). This attitude according to them is on a continuous increase, and they believe that many youths who have not engaged in coitus at the time of their study may do so before they marry. According to Moore (1998), it is evident today that there has been dramatic liberalization in premarital sexual attitude. Owuamanam (2013), in his contribution opined that the adolescents' attitudes towards kissing, embracing, breast fondling and sexual intercourse were found to be significantly associated with the adolescents' type of orientation.

Commenting on this, Onyemelukwe (2013) indicated that peer-orientated adolescents differ significantly from parent-oriented in their degree of indulgence in these sexual activities. Also, Akinboye (1997) pointed to peer-influence when he stated that there is always the tendency for adolescents to want to be like a peer who are seen having friends of the opposite sex. Hence, social forces may be operating to compound the problem with adolescents.

Furthermore, researchers, after meditating on the rate of the increase in incidence of premarital sex, observed reasons, which seemed predisposed to increased sexuality particularly among the youth. Anate (2006) emphasized that increasing urbanization has been greatly influential on premarital permissiveness. This confirmed the observation made by Udoh (2001: 21) who said, "Hundreds of Nigerian teenage girls roam the

streets of urban centers, offering themselves to men for economic gain."

In his observation, Jones (1970), after a series of studies revealing a decrease in commitment to religion since the 1950s concluded that a greater percentage of youths are not likely to turn their minds towards religion in search for personal help to improve immediate conditions about them. Hurlock as quoted in Agbaje (2011) said, "the adolescent needs religion and not ideology if he believes that it is religion that can give him faith in life and a feeling of security". He further stated that the adolescents could not get it from authoritative dogmas as sentiments. He needs a religion that is dissociated from everyday life and that looks down upon the pleasures of youth. Recent studies have shown that whereas the Western world like Europe and America have long realized the importance of sex education and are using it to contain and channel the sex revolution in the best possible direction, the Nigerians have left their adolescents unguided as a result of inadequate information on sex-related problems such as, unintended pregnancies, dumping of unwanted babies and illegal abortions.

Two teenage girls commented on this. Serifatu Kassim is 15 years old and said that she disappointed her struggling mother. "I got pregnant few months prior to my school certificate examination and was expelled from school". Also, Titi Philips, 16 years old, now a street trader, shattered her dream of becoming an accountant when she was in form three (Eze1994: 24)

Based on the aforementioned problems encountered by adolescents who indulge in premarital sex, there is need for a work of this nature to be carried out on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex in Awka North and South Local Government Areas, so as to be able to suggest appropriate counseling techniques for modifying any identified undesirable attitude.

Statement of the Problem

Researchers have observed that there is a prevalence of premarital sexual practices among adolescents and teenagers in the contemporary society, which leads to high incidence of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Most writers and school authorities frown upon adolescents' indulgence in premarital sex. Some communities carry out disciplinary action

on youths who indulge in it. The Federal Health Management Board engages in a series of campaigns to create public awareness on the danger and circulation of sexually transmitted diseases. However, literature is lacking on the parents' perception of the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex. Thus, the researchers decided to find out the parents' perception in this study.

Research Questions

1. What are the parents' perceptions of the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex?
2. What are the parents' views on the factors influencing adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex?

Research Hypotheses

Two null hypotheses were formulated to help the researchers in the study, and tested at a five percent level of significance.

1. Gender has no significant influence on the parents' views on the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex.
2. Adolescent and parent views will not differ significantly on the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex.

Literature Review

Concept of Attitudes

According to the Oxford Advanced Learner Dictionary, "attitude" is firstly defined as "the manner of placing or holding the body". Secondly, it is defined as a way of feeling, thinking and behaving". Attitude is also defined as an organized and consistent manner of thinking, feeling and reacting to people, groups, social issues or any event in one's environment (Bell and Courgey 2000). Attitudes direct people in a way and manner of their interaction with other people and events in the society. In other words, it can be described as behavioral tendency and not behavior.

Kaats and Davis (1990) said that attitude aids uniformity to one's behavior and human social relations. Knowing a person's attitude about something makes it possible to predict more readily his behavior or actions in relation to it. It

is necessary to understand that there is not just one attitude about a thing. For Lemon (1993), attitude is seen as one of the concepts used to describe acquired behavioral dispositions. In their own contribution, Making and Eze (2004) defined attitude as a manifestation of values, orientations of an individual in the form of a preparedness to a predetermined reaction to a given object or phenomenon. Ayansiji (2010) defined attitude as a state of mental or emotional reaction to a situation. A person's attitude is acquired and not inherited. It is the emotional readiness to react to situations, persons or things in a manner in harmony with a habitual pattern of responses previously conditioned to or associated with stimuli.

Furthermore, Eyo (2005) said, "Attitude is not behavior or action but a learned state of preparedness to behave or act in a particular way". It is said that an individual's attitude towards a thought, whether positive or negative will determine his or her behavior or action towards that thing. For instance, if a secondary schoolgirl has a positive attitude towards the English Language, she will always be interested in the subject. Also, if the adolescent boy has a positive attitude towards sexual activity, he will approach it favorably by wanting to indulge in it. Therefore, attitude is the tendency to act and not the action itself.

From the foregoing, one can say that an attitude is acquired through the socialization process. For instance, a child learns or forms their attitude through imitating or identifying with the people within the immediate environment. To support this, Onyeneji (2005) noted that other people are mainly the source of attitude formation. Thus, the agencies include socio-cultural groups, churches, schools, peer groups, family and the likes.

Moreover, he believes that it is not only other people that are the source for attitude formation, but that personal experiences like fearful or shocking events can make one develop an attitude. Besides, Eyo (2005) believed that attitude could also be acquired implicitly and explicitly, or formally and informally through the socialization process. Therefore, since it is one's attitude that governs one's behavior or action, and we have seen that socialization is the main source for attitude formation, it is then necessary that one acquires the right attitude towards whatever he does.

Adolescents Physical Growth and Behavior

An individual's behavior is at least to some extent influenced by his physical characteristics and body structure. Few psychologists subscribe to the theory that the body build and personality are closely related; yet there is little doubt that indirectly the physique affects the development of personality characteristics, attitudes and emotion. For example, a child who is advanced in physical development for his age is likely to be regarded and treated as an older child.

Changes brought about by physical growth may be related to a host of psychological functions, the attainment of sexual maturity at adolescence is accompanied by many changes in interests, attitudes and motives (Eyo 2005). In the African culture, adolescence may be a period of storm and stress that may be partially attributed to the anatomical and physiological, not particularly glandular changes in the body. Probably to an even greater extent, the problems of this period stem from the tremendous economic and cultural pressures on adolescent and the reactions of parents and others. It is interesting to note that the adolescent cannot always understand the relationship between adult admonitions to them concerning their conduct and adult behavior as observed by them. In some instances, they are very much confused by divergences between the two, and are influenced in their own behavior by an adult example rather than an adult precept.

Peer culture, that is, the modes of behavior and social pressures of the adolescence constitutes a highly influential factor in determining how the adolescent thinks and acts. At this stage, they move in a "crowd" or "clique". Peer culture and heterosexual relationships gave rise to dating and most dates as observed by Armstrong (2001) and Wagner (2000) are spent either in a car parked by the roadside in a dark secluded spot, in the bush, isolated areas, uncompleted buildings and abandoned houses. There, the times may be spent in necking and sexual intercourse.

There are different kinds of sexual aberration that are visible in the society, which the adolescents practice as a result of premarital sexual permissiveness. These are illegitimacy, homosexuality, lesbianism, prostitution, sexual harassment and exploitation including rape and incest. In fact, Hunt (1994) observed that there was a greater acceptance of masturbation, homosexuality and premarital sex in the 1970s, and

Roche (2006) confirmed that ever since that time such attitudes have been on an increase.

Furthermore, in confirmation to the above, Ivbijaro (2009: 47) concluded with this statement after narrating the story of her youthful love life concluded that "I can do whatever a man can do, and would not condemn any woman whose choice is to seek sexual gratification with another woman". As a result of the indulgence of youths in these sexual perversion and premarital sex, they expose to problems like expulsion from school, incidental diseases of the reproductive system, which could later lead to barrenness or cancer of the reproductive organs.

According to Esiet (2006), the most common complications recorded include sepsis, hemorrhage, incomplete abortion, uterine perforation and cervical trauma, which many times lead to infertility, chronic morbidity and psychological impairment. Onyemelukwe (2013) reported that teenagers, especially those in the age of puberty (10-12 years) who engage in premarital sex, run high risk of complications which sometimes cannot be handled by obstetricians because of mismanagement at home by traditional midwives (for example, leaving the individual in labor for over forty-eight hours) some unfortunate adolescents end up with Vesico-Vaginal Fistula (VVF), that is, leaking of urine. Others develop Recto-vaginal Fistula (RVF), which means leaking of feces, while some leak urine and feces simultaneously.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The design of this study was a survey type because the research sought information on incidence and attitude of the respondents. As a survey, it studied a chosen sample from the population to discover the relative incidence and attitude of social and psychological variables of the individual (Kerlinger 1987: 410). According to Osuala (2002), survey research studies both in large and small populations, are to discover the relative incidence, distribution and interrelations of sociological and psychological variables.

Population for the Study

The population of the study consisted of adolescents and parents represented by married teachers in Awka North and South Local

Government Areas. For the researcher to be able to get appropriated information, the adolescents and the married teachers in all secondary schools in the area of study were used as the target population of the study.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample for the study comprised of 430 SS II students (150 boys and 280 girls). Also, adult parents (married teachers) including 30 males and 120 females were selected based on proportionate stratified sampling. For the selection of the students, a simple random sampling technique was employed in selecting 3 boys' only schools, 4 girls' only schools and 3 co-educational schools making up to 10 schools out of the 16 schools.

Instrument for Data Collection

The data collection instrument for this study was an adapted and modified form of the Adolescents' Attitude towards Premarital Sex Questionnaire (AATPSQ) developed by Nwankwo (2007). It comprised of two parts (part one for adolescents, part two for adult parents). Each of the parts comprised of three sections: A, B and C.

Section A was on personal information, Section B contained the items testing premarital sexual attitudes (PST), while section C tested factors influencing premarital sexual attitudes (FIPSA). Sections B and C of the questionnaire comprised 21 and 10 items respectively designed as a 5-point scale which included, "Always" (5 points), "Almost Always" (4 points), "Sometimes" (3 points), "Rarely" (2 points) and "Not At All" (1 point).

Standardization of Instrument

A pilot study was used to refine the instrument (AATPSQ). Then a face validity method was employed and finally, the Cronbach Alpha was used for the standardization of the reliability test.

Validation of the Instrument

To determine the suitability and content validity of the instrument, it was presented to specialists at the Guidance and Counseling, Psychology, Measurement and Evaluation and Research Methodology, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. Based on the assessments of these

experts, the researcher made some modifications that enhanced the content of the instrument. The items they rejected were either removed, considered inadequate or reconstructed into the instrument.

Reliability

The instrument underwent a pilot test using 50 students and 20 married teachers to attest to the reliability coefficient of the instrument. The data collected was analyzed using the Cronbach Alpha () to obtain the internal consistency.

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After the analysis, the coefficient alpha stood at 0.79 and 0.81, which the researcher considered well enough for the internal consistency and reliability of the instruments

Method of Data Collection

The researcher, to the selected students and adult parents, administered copies of the questionnaire. This was to ensure proper explanation of the instrument to the respondents and to have a good return rate of the questionnaires.

Method of Data Analysis

For the data analysis, the mean and standard deviation were used in providing answers to the research questions. A mean 3.0 was used as a cutoff point for the items for acceptability. Then z and t-test statistics were used to test the null hypotheses formulated for the study. When the calculated "t" or "z" values are greater than the critical "t" or "z" value, the null hypothesis is rejected. But when any of the calculated "t" or "z" values is less than the critical value of "t" or "z", the null hypothesis is accepted.

RESULTS

The researcher presented and analyzed the data got from the field. Some of the data was presented in tables to highlight the major findings, which have been discussed.

Research Question 1

What are the parents' perceptions of the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex?

The finding indicates that the male adults accepted that adolescents have permissive attitudes towards premarital sex. On the other hand, the female adults have 14 out of 21 permissive attitudes towards premarital sex. Table 1 also shows that the female adults did not agree that the adolescents desire breast fondling nor like prostitution as a business; the adult female disagreed that there is nothing wrong with a girl who has had sexual intercourse with many boys, and the females rejected items 12, 18, 19, and 20 as the means are below the acceptance point of 3.0.

Research Question 2

What are the parents' views on the factors influencing adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex?

The finding indicates that as male adults identified not less than 10 factors their female counterparts identified only 7 factors influencing adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex (Table 2). The factors identified by both males and females include, practicing what the adolescents have learnt from their friends tamping their maturity, boosting their ego, for material gratifi-

Table 1: Parents' responses on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex

S. No.	Items	Males		Females	
		$\bar{x}$	Sd.	$\bar{x}$	Sd.
1	Adolescents like engaging in premarital sex	4.17	1.12	3.53	1.3
2	Adolescents like to have sexual relations before marriage	3.83	1.09	4.45	1.29
3	Adolescents desire breast fondling	3.87	1.36	2.25	1.34
4	Adolescents desire oral-genital sex	3.23	1.57	3.66	1.3
5	Adolescents enjoy sex plays	4.17	1.29	3.58	1.3
6	Adolescents like using pornographic materials	3.97	1.52	3.73	1.29
7	Adolescents like having intimate kissing	4.13	1.46	3.68	1.3
8	Adolescents cherish casual kissing	4.03	1.43	3.73	1.33
9	Adolescents like touching massage	3.97	1.35	3.63	1.24
10	Adolescents cherish petting without affection before marriage	3.67	1.37	3.8	1.24
11	Adolescents cherish coitus without affection before marriage	3	1.49	3.54	1.24
12	Adolescents like prostitution as a business	3.23	1.63	2.61	1.2
13	Adolescents enjoy petting with little affection before marriage	3.93	1.14	3.67	1.22
14	Adolescents enjoy coitus with little affection before marriage	4.17	1.26	3.83	1.12
15	There is nothing wrong with premarital sexual intercourse for adolescents	3.5	1.59	3.73	1.19
16	Nothing is wrong with a boy who has had sexual intercourse with many girls for adolescents	3.9	1.24	3.73	1.27
17	Nothing is wrong with a girl who has had sexual intercourse with many boys for adolescents	4	1.05	2.95	1.17
18	Nothing is wrong with serious necking before marriage	4.27	1.17	2.95	1.35
19	Sexual intercourse before marriage without emotional attachment is good for adolescents	4.23	1.07	1.89	1.24
20	Nothing is wrong with receptive anal intercourse for adolescents	4.23	1.17	2.79	1.12
21	Nothing is wrong with inserted anal intercourse for adolescents	4.53	0.9	2.83	1.16

Table 2: Parents' response on the factors influencing adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex

S. No.	Items	Males		Females	
		$\bar{x}$	Sd.	$\bar{x}$	Sd.
1	To practice what they learn from their friends	4.63	0.85	3.04	1.12
2	To practice what they learn from their parents	4.43	1.1	2.92	1.1
3	To stamp their maturity	3.77	1.25	3.01	1.2
4	To boost their ego	4.57	0.73	3.11	1.07
5	To derive happiness	4.3	0.99	2.91	1.12
6	For sexual gratification	4	1.15	2.84	1.23
7	For material gratification	4.23	0.9	3.63	1.26
8	To satisfy their sexual urges	3.73	1.17	3.08	1.19
9	To show off	3.77	1.25	3.7	1.26
10	To challenge their parents	3.73	1.31	3.21	1.22

cation, to satisfy their sexual urge, to show off, and to challenge their parents. While those fully identified by male adults but were not fully identified by the females include practicing what they learnt from their parents, to derive happiness, for sexual gratification.

Null Hypothesis 1

Gender has no significant influence on the adult parents' view of the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex.

The finding reveals that at a five percent level of significance and 148 degree of freedom the calculated $z=2.161$ is greater than the critical z -value of 1.6553 regarding the male and female adult opinion (Table 3). This means that there is a significant difference between the male and female adult views. Therefore, the first null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative is accepted.

Null Hypothesis 2

Adolescent and parent views will not differ significantly on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex.

The finding also reveals that at a five percent level of significance and 5.78 degree of freedom, the calculated $z=0.776$ is less than the critical z value of 1.645 (Table 4). This implies that there is no significant difference between the views of the adults and the adolescents on the latter's attitudes towards premarital. Therefore, the second null hypothesis is accepted.

DISCUSSION

From the answer to research question 1, which sought to find the parents' perceptions

of the adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex, it was discovered that they not only confirmed responses given by the adolescents' but disclosed that they exhibit no less than 21 permissive attitudes towards premarital sex.

The above findings are in line with what Reiss (2006) said long ago regarding the attitude of the present day youths towards sex, becoming more liberal and permissive. Also, Roche (2006) warned that the adolescents these days were more interested in sexual intercourse. Although the authors and researchers above were from Europe and America, and reported their findings in their continents, the situation has been proved to be the same in Nigeria by the findings of the present study. However, Salami (2001) and Latunji (2002) have been stressing that the Nigerian society is saturated with moral laxities and premarital sex is common at all levels of the school system. The findings of this study as shown in Tables 1 and 2 prove the comments of Onyemelukwe (2013) regarding the public outcry against premarital sex in the urban centers.

These observations were pointers Nwankwo (2007) to the fact that the mentioned society is a 'sex crazy' society. As the adolescents disclosed that they learnt their attitudes towards premarital sex from their parents, and confirmed by some of the male adults. This present findings, therefore, agree with the findings of Moore (1998) that the current parental attitudes towards sexuality lead to the higher incidence of premarital sexual activity of the adolescents. It is also evidence that parents have failed in their roles of enforcing moral codes towards their children as observed by Eze (2004). The other factors, which are to satisfy their sexual urges, derive sexual gratification, happiness and to stamp their maturity could be due to what Conger (1999)

Table 3: Comparison of the adults' views on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex

Gender	No. of Subjects	$\bar{x}$	Sd.	Df	Cal z	Crit. z	P.05
Male	30	3.91	1.36	1.48	2.161	1.6553	.05
Female	120	3.31	1.25				

$P < .05$

Table 4: Comparison of adolescents' and adult parents' views on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex

Gender	No. of Subjects	$\bar{x}$	Sd.	Df	Cal z	Crit. z	P.05
Adolescent	430	3.33	1.31	5.78	0.776	1.645	(NS)
Parents	150	3.43	1.37	1.37			

observed. He said that of all the developmental events of adolescents, the most dramatic is the increase in sexual drive and new the often mysterious feelings and thoughts that accompany it.

The findings also revealed that there is no significant difference between the adolescent and adult view on adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex. This corresponds with the findings that the rate of permissiveness differs in males and females. They, however, observed that the attitudes and actual indulgence of the males in premarital sex is higher than those of the females. In addition, gender has no significant influence on the adolescents' views on the factors that influence the views of the adult parents. The adult and adolescent views do not differ significantly regarding the factors influencing adolescents' attitudes towards premarital sex. It means that the factors are almost common to both adult adolescents, gender notwithstanding.

CONCLUSION

From the above discussion, the following conclusions could be safely made:

1. Both adult parents and adolescents are fully aware of the permissive attitudes in the adolescents towards premarital sex.
2. Both adolescents and adult parents believe that no less than 10 factors push the adolescents into permissive sexual attitudes.
3. Male and female adults differ in their views on the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex. The males accepted that they have permissive attitude but the females rejected it.
4. The views of both the adolescents and the adult parents do not differ significantly with regards to the adolescents' attitude towards premarital sex.
5. The views of the adolescents and adult parents do not differ significantly with regards to the factors influencing adolescents towards premarital sex.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and the implications of the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. The State Education Commission should work in collaboration with the curriculum designers in the secondary school education to plan how best the adolescents in secondary schools could be helped on sex and sex-related matters through the knowledge of adolescents' reproductive health.
2. The Guidance Counselors in the Counseling Association of Nigeria should work hard to create awareness through pastoral and group counseling to re-orientate the members of the society on the issues and problems of sex.
3. The Guidance Counselor and the Social Worker should look for emergency strategies through which the attitudes of the adolescents and even the adult members in the society towards premarital sex can best be changed or amended.
4. The Federal Government of Nigeria and the State Government should promulgate a decree and enact an edict banning the importation and use of pornographic materials, contraceptives and condoms to reduce the ill information pattern on sex to adolescents and adults in the society.
5. Parents should know that their children see them as next to God unless proven otherwise. They therefore should be very careful of what they do in the presence of their children and how they do whatever they do. They should see themselves as role models and live as such.
6. Religious Leaders and Ministers of the Gospel as God's watchmen should cry out and warn the people against God's judgment on the disobedient. The word of God says that you shall not kill (abortion), you shall not commit adultery (sex outside marriage) and that you should abstain from fornication. In other words, sex outside marriage is sinful and immoral. They should also remind the youths, "...neither fornicators, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind (premarital sex and all kinds of sex perversion) will not inherit the kingdom of God. Therefore make Jesus the Lord of your life and then glorify God in your body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit."

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