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Perceived Challenges Faced by Mothers of Pregnant Teenagers who are Attending a Particular School in Mopani District, Limpopo Province, South Africa

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ABSTRACT Teenage pregnancy is a global problem in both developed and underdeveloped countries. This is evidenced by the high rates of pregnant teenagers in South African schools. The study sought to explore the perceived challenges faced by mothers of pregnant teenagers who are attending a particular schools Mopani district. A qualitative explorative and descriptive approach was used. The population comprised of all mothers of pregnant teenagers who were waiting at the school gate. A non-probability, convenient sampling method was used to sample 11 participants. In-depth individual interview guided by one central question directed the interview which was: "what challenges do you experience as you are expected to wait at the school gate for your pregnant teenager?" Open coding method was used to analyse the data. Three themes emerged namely: Socio-economic implications to parents; Emotional implications to parents and to the pregnant learner. The study recommended that school should be provided with basics medical equipments to use should there be a need for delivery at the school. Teachers should be empowered on conduction of emergency delivery. Ethical and trustworthiness were ensured. It was concluded that mothers waiting at the gate for their pregnant teenagers are psychologically, socially and economically affected.