

Educators' Perceptions of the Effects of Teenage Pregnancy on the Behaviour of the Learners in South African Secondary Schools: Implications for Teacher Training

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ABSTRACT The aim of this study was to investigate educators' perceptions of the effects of teenage pregnancy on the behaviour of the learners in some South African secondary schools. Fourteen educators from seven secondary schools were purposively sampled for the study. Data were collected using in-depth interviews to allow the researchers a platform to ask open-response questions and to explore the educators' perspectives about the effects of teenage pregnancy. The data were analysed thematically by carefully identifying and expanding significant themes that emerged from the informants' perceptions about the effects of teenage pregnancy. The study revealed that teenage pregnancy has a negative or detrimental effect on the school attendance, academic performance, emotional behaviour and relationships between pregnant teenagers, their peers and educators. Implications for teacher training to manage these effects were given.