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Factors associated with risky sexual behaviors among public senior secondary school students in Ikenne local government area, Ogun state, Nigeria

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Abstract

Risky sexual behavior can be described as deliberate engagement in all actions that can expose the students to sexually transmitted infections and early pregnancy. It is associated with early sexual activity having multiple sexual partners, peer pressure, exposure to pornography, substance use, lack of communication on sex with parents, lack of sexuality education etc. Despite measures put in place to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, the incidence is still very high and this is because of increase in sexual risky behavior among students. This study was aimed at assessing risky sexual behaviours among public senior secondary school students in Ikenne LGA Ogun State.

This study adopted the descriptive survey research method of ex-post facto type. The population was 418 public senior secondary school students in Ikenne Local Government of Ogun State, Nigeria. Sample size was determined using Leslie Kish formular and proportional stratified random sampling technique was adopted to select 418 students for the study. A researcher self-administered questionnaire was used to collect data on factors associated with risky sexual behaviours among public senior secondary school students. Face and content validity of the instruments was ascertained by presenting it to the supervisor and expert in the field. Reliability of the questionnaire was determined using

Cronbach alpha and co-efficient was 0.8. Data were processed using statistical package for the social sciences version 21.0. Five hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of confidence.

The results of this study revealed that students' exposure to pornography (t -value = 3.870, $f_{(1,410)} = 3.762$, $p = .003$), peer pressure ($R = .469$, R^2 adj. = .220, $f_{(1,410)} = 9.075$; $P = .000$), sexual activity ($R = .427$, R^2 adj. = .182, $f_{(1,410)} = 3.756$; $P = .000$), and students' risky sexual behaviour ($R = .561$, R^2 adj. = .311, $F_{(1,410)} = 4.924$; $P = 0.000$) significantly influenced students' risky sexual behaviour. However, drug use and abuse ($R = .267$, R^2 adj. = .033, $f_{(1,410)} = 2.093$; $P = .067$) was found to be insignificant in influencing the students' risky sexual behaviour.

The study concluded that there is a high prevalence of risky sexual behaviours among public senior secondary school students. Also, drinking alcohol, watching pornography, peer influence and no discussion on sexual reproductive issues with parents were factors that significantly increase the risk of risky sexual behaviour among students. The study recommended that it is very important to design school, parent and community-based intervention program to eliminate the situation which give way for student's participation in risky sexual behavior.

Keywords: assessment, factors, risky sexual behaviours

Introduction

Risky sexual behavior is a public health issues significantly affecting senior secondary school students negatively. Risky sexual behavior can be described as deliberate engagement in all actions that can expose the students to sexually transmitted infections and early pregnancy^[1]. Adolescent make up one sixth of global inhabitants, numbering 1.2 billion in the world^[2]. This is a critical stage in students' lives characterized by marked hormonal changes that occur in the body following sexual maturity^[3]. Similarly, they tend to seek sexual orientation, freedom, show mood and feelings, look for new adventure which includes risky sexual behavior, irrational decision making etc^[4]. According to Kassa *et al*, risky sexual behaviors include: alcohol and substance abuse, having more than one sexual partner, early sexual orientation^[5]. Non-use of contraceptive, pressure from peers to have sex, dating older people, having friends who are sexually active. Understanding risky sexual behavior and its associated factors is important to come up with better planning, implementation and evaluation strategies. Risky sexual behaviour consequences on the wellbeing of students are broad with little attention given to assessment and identification of each student's health needs that expose them to risky sexual behavior^[6].

Similarly, Kassa *et al* mentioned that risky sexual behavior can have harmful effects which include sexually transmitted disease (STI), human immune deficiency virus, cancer, early and unplanned pregnancy, abortion, developmental, social, economic, physiological and psychological problems.^[5] Sexual risky behavior has led to the death of many adolescent leaving many of them with chronic health diseases. According to Odo, Samuel, and Atama, Nigeria has 22.3% of adolescent. This group of people have social, physical, developmental and psychological needs that predispose them to risky sexual behavior^[7]. These needs must be assessed properly to enable the adolescent live a healthy life style.

The basic factors that contribute to adolescent risky sexual behavior are; early sexual activity, having multiple sexual partners, peer pressure, exposure to pornography, substance use, lack of communication on sex with parents, lack of sexuality education etc^[8]. All these factors are entrenched within the socio-cultural environment that shapes the lives of students which could possibly have negative outcome. Early sexual activity is the onset of sexual intercourse on or before the age of 15^[8]. Students who engage in early sexual relationship are more likely to suffer physical and psychological health problems than those who do not. Early sex can be associated with factors such as poor family background, cultural status, poor parental supervision, parent separation and absence of religion^[9]. Also, among factors that expose students to early pregnancy are family composition, poor parent attachment, substance use, mothers age at first sex, large family size etc^[10]. Globally, the prevalence of risky sexual behavior among secondary school students are frightening with studies showing that one fifth of student 15-19 years were identified to have started sexual relationships in Aksun Town, Ethiopia^[11]. Study conducted by Durowade *et al.* in Ekiti State, South West Nigeria, showed that 67.8% have started sexual intercourse.^[10] Early sexual activity increases students' risk of sexually transmitted diseases, delay or prevent academic achievement, increased incidence of multiple sexual partners, unprotected sex, unplanned pregnancy, unsafe abortions etc^[10].

On the other hand, peer pressure has direct influence on student's behavior. Positive peer pressure can reduce the risk of risky sexual behavior but negative peer pressure can increase the risk of risky sexual behavior. Peer pressure is the influence of one's social group to conform with group rules either positively or negatively. Influence of peer pressure on student's behavior include, skipping classes, substance use, smoking, decision to have a boy/girlfriend, watching pornography, going to parties during school hours, encouraging one another to have sex with older adults and with sex workers. Peer group pressure is the primary factor in student risky sexual behaviour^[12]. Students are mostly at risk of peer pressure because at this stage, they are gaining more freedom from family with little knowledge about the consequences of their actions as they are trying to fit into the society socially^[13]. American academy of child and adolescent psychiatry, outlined the following tips to help students deal with peer pressure; parent / guardian open communication, teaching and encouraging the students to adopt good behaviors, know their friends, know their relationship with friends, inculcate the habit of self-confidence in students etc.

Furthermore, exposure to pornography can harm students and change their view about sexual relationships. The world is a global community due to advisement in technology such as

social media, internet, television etc. Pornography is a visual material that displays nude photos or video of individual having sexual intercourse. The number of students and young people exposed to pornography in Nigeria is rising continuously with 99.3% of them having access to internet.^[14] Dickson listed effects of pornography as follows; reduced inspiration, poor decision-making skills, impaired social relationship, emotional disturbance, extreme pleasure or euphoria, body image disturbance in females, increased anxiety, sexual exploitation, physical abuse etc^[15].

Additionally, substance abuse is another factor associated with risky sexual behaviour among students. This is ingestion of harmful substances into the body that changes the body's chemical components. Substance commonly abused are; alcohol, opioids, heroin, cocaine, cannabis, Indian hemp, tobacco etc. Students use substance for the following reasons, escape mechanism, pressure from peers, emotional imbalance, stress, curiosity, death of a loved one, ignorance, high performance, family influence etc^[16]. In the global world, 3.3 million deaths occur annually due to alcohol consumption alone and 15.3 million have been recorded to have drug use disorder. Study conducted in Osun state Nigeria revealed that 65.7% of in school students use harmful substance in rural communities and 66.0% in urban areas^[17]. Substance use can result to health, academic and social effects. Common negative outcome on students includes; physical injuries either to self or others, hangovers, nausea, risky sexual behavior, fight, unprotected sex and in severe cases death may occur. Students who use substance visits hospital facilities more often than those who do not. Effects on school achievement are, absence from school, poor academic performance^[18]. Eske identified short- and long-term effects of substance abuse^[19]. Short term effects are appetite changes, problems with coordination, cognitive problems, insomnia, addiction, poor personal hygiene, etc. Long term effects include, mental disorders (such as depression, anxiety, panic disorders, increased aggression, paranoid and hallucination), damage to the cardiovascular system, problems with respiration, kidney problem, liver problem etc.

Finally, studies have revealed that lack of parental guidance and communication about sex is indeed one of the major factors contributing to risky sexual behavior among students. Parents- student communication is an approach used by parents to convey sexuality information and other health related messages to their children. This will help students to delay early engagement to sexual activities thereby reducing or preventing sexuality related consequences. However, this can be affected by cultural barriers, parents lack of knowledge, attitudes to such issues etc^[20]. Also, inaccurate information, lack of confidence or discomfort about sexuality related issues, children's age, feeling of unease and fear of a negative reaction or punishment, parents and child perception about sexuality topics^[21].

Studies have shown that risky sexual behavior affect adolescent in all ramifications, their health, education, employment opportunities and general wellbeing. Factors associated with risky sexual behavior should be considered when planning sexual and reproductive health programs. The researcher wants to find out if these factors are associated with risky sexual behaviours in this region. Therefore, this study is done to assess factors associated with risky sexual behavior among public secondary school student (12-19) in Ikenne LGA of Ogun State.

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses guided this study

1. There is no significant influence of exposure to pornography on students' risky sexual behaviour
2. There is no significant influence of peer pressure on students' risky sexual behaviour
3. There is no significant influence of substance use and abuse on students' risky sexual behaviour
4. There is no significant influence of early sexual activity on students' risky sexual behaviour
5. There is no significant influence of lack of communication on sex with parent on students' risky sexual behaviour

Methodology

Research Design: This study adopted the descriptive survey research design of ex-post facto type. Ex-post facto research is a systematic empirical inquiry in which the researcher does not have direct control on the independent variable(s) because their manifestations would have already occurred or because they will not be manipulated. Inferences about relations among variables will be made without direct intervention from associated variation of independent and dependent variables.

Research setting

Ikenne Local Government Area was created in September 1991, from the defunct Remo Local Government. The LGA lies in the rainforest vegetation belt of Nigeria. The local government is made up of three urban towns and two rural villages. The urban towns are Iperu, Ikenne, and Ilisan, while the rural villages are Irolu and Ogere. It has a land area of about 137.13 sq.km bounded on the west by Obafemi-Owode Local Government, on the south by Sagamu Local Government, on the east and north by Odogbolu Local Government. The LGA is divided into five administrative, namely; Ikenne, Ilisan, Iperu, Irolu and Ogere. The five administrative zones have a total of 11 public secondary schools.

Population: The population for this study were two thousand three hundred and ninety-six (2,396) students in public secondary schools in Ikenne Local Government of Ogun State, Nigeria.

Inclusion criteria: Students in senior secondary school 1-3

Exclusion criteria: Students in private secondary schools, students who are below 12 years of age.

Sample size and Sampling Techniques

The sample size for this study was determined by applying the Kish Leslie (1965) formula as it is the standard method of randomization and is also suitable for identifying the limits of errors considered as the most essential items in the survey. This helped the researcher to obtain the sample and use the results to make sampling decisions based on the data. Therefore, sample of 418 students will be selected for the study. The 418 will represent the number of respondents across the schools to which copies of the questionnaire will be administered.

The sample was selected using the stratified random sampling technique. The classes in the selected schools will be stratified, while proportional stratified random sampling

method for the selection of 418 students for the study. The reason for the use of proportional stratified random sampling method is to ensure that each stratum (school) has the same sampling fraction and that all the elements or groups under investigation are well represented in the sample. The selection of the 418 students was done using simple random sampling (balloting).

Instrumentation

A researcher self-administered questionnaire was used for the study and has 7 sections. Section A: socio-demographic data of participants consisting 8 items. Section B: prevalence of risky sexual behaviors was determined using 5 items, which had true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as low-level knowledge score participants between 50% and 70% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge level. Section C: has 5 items which was used to examine early sexual activities among senior secondary school students. The response was graded using true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge. Section D: has 5 items which was used to examine influence of peer pressure among senior secondary school students. The response was graded using true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge. Section E: has 6 items which was used to examine exposure to pornography among senior secondary school students. The response was graded using true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge. Section F: has 5 items which was used to examine substance abuse among senior secondary school students. The response was graded using true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge. Section G: has 7 items which was used to examine lack of communication with parents on sexuality. The response was graded using true or false responses. Knowledge score of participants below 50% was categorized as moderate knowledge level and knowledge score of participants above 70% was categorized as high knowledge.

Validity and Reliability of Instrument

The instrument was presented to the researcher's supervisor and expert in the field to ascertain its face and content validity. The questionnaire content and face validity were determined as valid.

Reliability

A pilot testing of the instrument was conducted among 40 students of Remo secondary school, Sagamu which is an area different from research setting. Cronbach alpha co-efficient was used to determine the reliability result. The coefficient value of 0.894 was obtained.

Method of Data Collection

Ethical clearance for the study was sought from Babcock

University Health Research Ethics Committee (BUHREC). A letter of introduction from the Dean of the School of Nursing, Babcock University was presented to the respective Principals of the schools and permission was obtained from the administration of the schools to carry out the study. Respondents was informed about the objectives and the course of the study. Consent was obtained and questionnaire was self-administered to all students in their classrooms during recess. Questionnaires was collected after completion and checked for appropriateness and complete filling. Data collection was done within a period of 2 weeks.

Method of Data Analysis

Data for the study was obtained through questionnaire and analyzed quantitatively using Statistical Package for the Social Science version 21.0 was made and data presented on it. Six research questions were answered using descriptive statistics of mean, standard deviation and percentage while two hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of confidence using One-way analysis of Variance (ANOVA). The data editing and on-site checking was done on the field by the researcher to rule out any omission

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Summary of Analysis of variance on the influence of exposure to pornography on students' risky sexual behaviour

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	p-value
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	7.032	.301		10.221	.000
Exposure to pornography	.058	.037	.123	3.870	.003
Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	5.669	1	5.669	3.762	0.003
Residual	617.870	410	1.507		
Total	623.539	411			
R = 0.488; Multiple R (Adjusted) = 0.238; Multiple R ² (Adjusted) = 0.231; Stand error estimate = 5.512					

The contribution of the predictor variable to the variance in students' risky sexual behaviour revealed that exposure to pornography has a beta value of .123 and t-value of 3.870 significant at .003 alpha level. The calculated value of f = 3.870 significant at .003 alpha level indicated that students' risky sexual behaviour was significantly influenced by

exposure to pornography (t-value = 3.870, $f_{(1,410)} = 3.762$, $p = .003$). Furthermore, exposure to pornography yielded a coefficient of multiple regression (R) of 0.488 and a multiple correlation square of 0.231. This shows that 23.1% of the total variance in the students' risky sexual behaviour is accounted for by exposure to pornography.

Table 2: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis of the influence of peer pressure on students' risky sexual behaviour

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	p-value
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	5.101	.287	5.432	.000
	Peer pressure	.111	.039	.163	2.825
Source of variation	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-Ratio	P
Regression	3.981	1	3.981	9.075	0.000
Residual	400.570	410	.977		
Total	404.551	411			
R = 0.469; Multiple R (Adjusted) = 0.220 Multiple R ² (Adjusted) = 0.213; Stand error estimate = 4.700					

The contribution of the predictor variable (peer pressure) to the variance in students' risky sexual behaviour revealed that peer pressure has a beta value of .163 and t-value of 2.825 significant at .000 alpha level. Therefore, peer pressure was found to be potent factor influencing the students' risky sexual behaviour. Furthermore, peer pressure yielded a coefficient of multiple regression (R) of 0.469 and a multiple correlation square of 0.213. This shows that 21.3% of the

total variance in the students' risky sexual behaviour is accounted for by peer influence. The Table also indicates that the analysis of variance of the multiple regression data produced an F-ratio value significant at 0.00 level ($R = .469$, $R^2 \text{ adj.} = .220$, $f_{(1,410)} = 9.075$; $P = .000$). Therefore, there is a statistically significant influence of peer pressure on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by peer pressure.

Table 3: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis of the influence of substance use and abuse on students' risky sexual behaviour

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	p-value
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	3.265	.311	5.647	.000
	Substance use/abuse	.065	.162	.080	1.599
Source of variation	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-Ratio	P
Regression	2.321	1	2.321	2.093	0.067
Residual	454.690	410	1.109		
Total	457.011	411			
R = 0.267; Multiple R (Adjusted) = 0.071; Multiple R ² (Adjusted) = 0.033; Stand error estimate = 2.841					

The contribution of the predictor variable to the variance in students' risky sexual behaviour revealed that drug use and abuse has a beta value of .080 and t-value of 1.599 not significant at .067 alpha level. Therefore, drug use and abuse was found to be potent factor influencing the students' risky sexual behaviour. Furthermore, drug use and abuse yielded a coefficient of multiple regression (R) of 0.267 and a multiple correlation square of 0.033. This shows that 3.3% of the total variance in the students' risky sexual behaviour is accounted for by drug use and abuse. The Table also indicates that the

analysis of variance of the multiple regression data produced an F-ratio value insignificant at 0.067 level ($R = .267$, $R^2 \text{ adj.} = .033$, $f_{(1,410)} = 2.093$; $P = .067$). Therefore, there is a statistically significant influence of peer pressure on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by peer pressure. Therefore, there is no statistically significant influence of substance use and abuse on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by substance use and abuse in this study.

Table 4: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis of the early sexual activity on students' risky sexual behaviour

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	p-value	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	7.381	.400	6.001	.000	
	Sexual activity	.073	.177	3.417	.000	
Source of variation		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-Ratio	P
Regression		5.007	1	5.007	3.756	0.000
Residual		546.530	410	1.333		
Total		551.537	411			
R = 0.427; Multiple R (Adjusted) = 0.182; Multiple R ² (Adjusted) = 0.182; Stand error estimate = 3.957						

The contribution of the predictor variable to the variance in students' risky sexual behaviour revealed that sexual activity has a beta value of .288 and t-value of 3.417 significant at .000 alpha level. Therefore, sexual activity was found to be potent factor influencing the students' risky sexual behaviour. Furthermore, sexual activity yielded a coefficient of multiple regression (R) of 0.182 and a multiple correlation square of 0.182. This shows that 18.2% of the total variance in the students' risky sexual behaviour is accounted for by sexual activity. The Table also indicates that the analysis of variance

of the multiple regression data produced an F-ratio value significant at 0.000 level ($R = .427$, $R^2 \text{ adj.} = .182$, $f_{(1,410)} = 3.756$; $P = .000$). Therefore, there is a statistically significant influence of sexual activity on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by sexual activity. Therefore, there is no statistically significant influence of sexual activity on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by sexual activity in this study.

Table 5: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis of the communication on sex on students' risky sexual behaviour

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	p-value	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
	(Constant)	7.381	.400	6.001	.000	
	lack of communication on sex	.069	.159	3.700	.001	
Source of variation		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-Ratio	P
Regression		6.987	1	6.987	4.924	0.000
Residual		581.790	410	1.419		
Total		588.777	411			
R = 0.561; Multiple R (Adjusted) = 0.315; Multiple R ² (Adjusted) = 0.311; Stand error estimate = 6.288						

The contribution of the predictor variable to the variance in students' risky sexual behaviour revealed that sexual activity has a beta value of .273 and t-value of 3.700 significant at .000 alpha level. Therefore, lack of communication on sex was found to be potent factor influencing the students' risky sexual behaviour. Furthermore, lack of communication on sex yielded a coefficient of multiple regression (R) of 0.561 and a multiple correlation square of 0.311. This shows that 31.1% of the total variance in the students' risky sexual behaviour is accounted for by lack of communication on sex. The table indicated that the analysis of variance produced an F-ratio value significant at 0.000 level ($F_{(1,410)} = 4.924$; $P = 0.000$). Therefore, there is a statistically significant influence of lack of communication on sex with parent on students' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that students' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by lack of communication on sex with parent in this study.

Discussion of the Findings

The result indicated a statistically significant influence of

exposure to pornography on adolescents' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that adolescents' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by their exposure to pornography. It implies that pornography increases the risk of sex contact such as unsafe anal and vaginal sex, non-use of condoms. Pornography increases partners sexual expectations which can lead to dissatisfaction and frustration if these needs are not met and as result, they begin to look for another sex partner who can meet their sexual needs. This supports the findings of Quadara, El-mur and Latham that students who watch pornography are more likely to be violent during sex than those who don't watch it, and as well prone to risky sexual behaviour^[22].

The result indicated that adolescents' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by peer pressure. It could be deduced that peer pressure has direct influence on student's behavior. Positive peer pressure can reduce the risk of risky sexual behavior but negative peer pressure can increase the risk of risky sexual behavior. This corroborates the findings of Adegboyega, Ayoola and Muhammed who reported that peer group is the

primary factor in student risky sexual behaviour^[12]. Students are mostly at risk of peer pressure because at this stage, they are gaining more freedom from family with little knowledge about the consequences of their actions as they are trying to fit into the society socially^[13]. Thus, peer pressure is the influence of one's social group to conform with group rules either positively or negatively. Influence of peer pressure on student's behavior include, skipping classes, substance use, smoking, decision to have a boy/girlfriend, watching pornography, going to parties during school hours, encouraging one another to have sex with older adults and with sex workers.

The result indicated no statistically significant influence of substance use and abuse on adolescents' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that adolescents' risky sexual behaviour was not influenced by substance use and abuse in this study. These results contradict the findings of Idowu, Aremu, Olumide and Ogunlaja that reported a significant influence of substance use and abuse on adolescents' risky sexual behaviour^[17].

The result indicated a statistically significant influence of early sexual activity on adolescents' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that adolescents' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by early sexual activity in this study. Students who engage in early sexual behaviour are more likely to have multiple sexual partnership and unprotected sex. These could result to infections, unplanned pregnancy, abortion, early childbirth, and psycho social problems. This is in line with the findings of Kassahen, Gelagay, Muche, Dessie and Kassier who found out that 62% of women had their sex debut before 15 and 18 years^[5]. Early sex debut has been associated with organ and sexual arousal, depression and low self-esteem. Students who had their sex debut early in life are bound to be at risk sexually^[24].

The result indicated a statistically significant influence of lack of communication on sex with parent on adolescents' risky sexual behaviour. This tells us that adolescents' risky sexual behaviour was influenced by lack of communication on sex with parent in this study. The-implies that parents-student communication is an approach used by parents to convey sexuality information and other health related messages to their children. This will help students to delay early engagement to sexual activities thereby reducing or preventing sexuality related consequences. This support the previous studies that revealed lack of parental guidance and communication about sex is indeed one of the major factors contributing to risky sexual behaviour among students^[20, 21]. Also, inaccurate information, lack of confidence or discomfort about sexuality related issues, children's age, feeling of unease and fear of a negative reaction or punishment, parents and child perception about sexuality topics^[21].

Conclusion

This study has assessed the factors associated with risky sexual behaviours among public senior secondary school students in Ikenne Local Government Area, Ogun State, Nigeria. It was found that there is a high prevalence of risky sexual behaviours among public senior secondary school students. Also, drinking alcohol, watching pornography, peer influence and no discussion on sexual reproductive issues with parents were factors that significantly increase the risk of risky sexual behaviour among students. Hence, sex-related education programs on the consequences of using alcohol and

other stimulants as well as having multiple sex partners should be developed for reaching the youth at the locations where they often gather, such as schools. Early sexual health literacy may also help reduce unsafe sex.

Recommendations

In view of the findings stated earlier, risky sexual behaviour is one of the major problems among public senior secondary school students currently that results in adverse sexual and reproductive health, such as undesirable pregnancies, unsafe abortion and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), like HIV/AIDS. The following recommendations are made:

1. It is imperative to design school, parent and community-based intervention program to eliminate the situation which give way for student's participation in risky sexual behavior.
2. School administrator should facilitate cooperative involvement and communication among parents, schools, and other concerned bodies for the purpose of reducing risky sexual behaviors in adolescents which in turn increases healthy life in adolescents.
3. Health talks, symposia, seminars could provide avenue for in-school adolescent to have access to sexual Behavioral information that could improve their knowledge towards risky sexual behaviour.

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