UNINTENDED PREGNANCY IN ADOLESCENTS IN TEMPORARY SHELTERS: LIFE EXPERIENCE

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ABSTRACT

Previous studies have not found the decision making experience about using temporary shelters for adolescents who had unintended pregnancies. The objective of this study was to learn the experience and the factors that influenced the use of temporary shelters for adolescents who had unintended pregnancies. This was a qualitative study of unintended pregnancies in adolescents who gave birth and used a temporary shelter service. An intensive interview was used and the data analysis compared the data correlation by descriptive speech.

The study found that the difference in families, friends, close male friends, the misunderstanding of contraceptives, sexual experiences, alcohol, and rape were the conditions that led to the unintended pregnancy. When this occurred, the close male friends or friends were consulted. The family was the last to be asked for consultation. The temporary shelter was the best choice to conceal the pregnancy for those in the sampling group. The highly educated sample group could access shelter information quickly, while the low educated sample group could not. Adolescents from supportive families could conceal the pregnancy very quickly, while the adolescents who came from split families could not conceal the pregnancy very easily. In addition, the study found that the word of mouth from people who used the temporary shelter services, shelter information, the distance that lived from the shelters, religious beliefs, and the family’s opinion influenced the decisions for the use of the temporary shelter.

This study suggests that the parents should offer enough support to female adolescent. The family and school should teach life skills and help adolescent resist need to engage in sexual acts.

KEY WORDS: FEMALE ADOLESCENT/ UNINTEND PREGNANCY/ TEMPORARY SHELTER

148 pages
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