PUBERTY, EARLY PREGNANCY AND EDUCATION

by:
Dina B. Sanchez
Magsaysay National High School

Puberty is the period of life when a person’s sexual organs mature and he/she becomes able to have children. It is also marked the development of secondary sex characteristics. Puberty occurs often construed legally at the age of 14 in boys and 12 in girls.

These ranges of age stay in high school. Teenagers spend mostly their lives at school where they mingle and interact with their opposite sex. As they undergo physical changes, their emotions are affected by the hormones surging inside their body. They become moody. They start being appreciative of the beauty they can see. They start having crushes and later on develop into more serious type of relationship.

Aside from these reasons, multimedia and social media play a vital role in the lives of these teenagers. Most of them own a cellphone, tablet, and computer where they can access the Facebook, a social-mingling site and You tube where they can stream videos showing coitus and the likes. These activities will open their eyes and curiosity arises, and when curiosity strikes the problem occurs.

Impulsiveness together with immaturity and curiosity leads to a bigger problem—pregnancy. The young mom will eventually stop going to school as her tummy becomes bigger and the fact that she will be the talk of the campus. Same situation will be experienced by the father who must work for the needs of his family.

Some pregnant students decide to continue their studies despite of their condition but this situation will create another problem. Many will think that it will be okay to graduate or study even you got impregnant. This is the reason why Department of Education extends some considerations to pregnant students who want to continue their studies. These considerations are they can study at home through modular education and
they will be given maternity leave and assume schooling after giving birth.

Due to increasing cases of pregnancy among high school students, ABS CBN airs a TV series entitled “Bagito” which the story tells a story of teenage boy who assumes the responsibility of being a father to his son. It shows how hard life would become to the teenage father who has nothing to offer to his son; the suffering of the parents to see their son and daughter facing a situation intended for adults.

Administrators, teachers, and parents must work hand in hand. Cooperation and communication among them is very essential for the better future of the students.

References:
www.earlyparenthood.com
www.wikipedia.com