

**090112 001 FGD GIRLS 17 - 19 YEARS**

PROJECT	STEP UP
FGD	GIRLS
DATE	09/02/2013
VENUE	MAKWAK (CHIEF'S CAMP KOROGOCHO)
MODERATOR	M1
NOTE TAKER	N1
TRANSCRIBER	T1

Int: I have many years and I don't want say. We can now answer and I would like you to tell me what problems youths or young people of your age experience here in Korogocho, girls of this age, 15 to 19 years, what kind of problems do you get?

Resp1: We as girls the problem that we experience

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Is that maybe you are coming from a poor family

Int: Mhh

Resp: And there is not help you can get from them

Int Mhh

Resp1: So you will see girls of your age getting financial assistance from their boyfriends, they promote them financially, this will influence you to also look for a

boy friend to support you financially, so you will say if so and so dropped out of school and she is getting financial assistance from her boyfriend let me also leave school and look for a boyfriend who will assist me financial.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So you find that girls of our age get into a relationship when we are still young, at times you are still at school and so you have to leave school

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And continue with the relationship then you get pregnant and finally the boy abandons you, so that is the main problem that we experience mostly, and also lack of job

Int: Mhh

Resp1: There are no jobs and when you desire for something there is no way you can get them so in your heart you long for something like that of your friend but you cannot manage that and so this makes one to indulge in such relationships even if you do not want to do that.

Int: Any other problem?

Resp3: The problem that we experienced here in Korogocho is bad company and it is not your wish to join that bad company

but the kind of life we are living, considering that our parents are poor,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: you will imagine your friend always goes to town and gets money

Int: mhh

Resp3: And you are age mates, when I look at her, so you will decide to join her and go to town so that at least my mother and I can be able to have some food.

Int: They go to town to get money? How?

Resp3: She gets money; you know when you go to those clubs

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She can also go to Koinange Street

Int: Mhh

Resp3: she gets money by sleeping with men,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She has to have sex to get that money

Int: Mhh

Resp3: so I will get that money on behalf of my mother is I not able and my siblings so that we may be able to have some food on the table and continue with our life.

Int: So you go with the permission of your mother?

Resp3: You can't go when your mother knows, it is something that when you sit and think how you have not had breakfast, lunch and also at supper time to be able to eat, it is stress

Int: Mhh

Resp3: and you can imagine your friend tells you; Ehh today I went to town and had sex with someone whereby I was given two thousand shilling. So you imagine Sh2,000 in a day, you will say that is good money in a day and now you take hold of your friend. So you will tell your mother that you are going to visit a friend and you will have informed her in case she is asked. You will take hold of your friend and ask her to show you what she does

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And so you will go with her and she will show you and after that you will also come with your money. And so you will get used to going to town because if you go today you get two thousand and the following day you get three thousand.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: So you see it will continue like that, and that is why you will find young people like us being HIV Positive.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Because of that

Int: Is it something that happens often?

Resp4: Yes it happens often (crosstalk)

Int: Someone else to tell us?

Resp4: It is just the way my colleague has said, poverty leads people to many things,

Int: Mhh

Res4: It can lead someone maybe you really would have liked to continue with your education, you learn and come back home you find there is no lunch and you don't have books. It disheartens you and feel let school be after all so and so is not in school she is leading a good life. You may have gone up to form four like me but there is no job, I cannot continue to college because there is no money and so I have to sit back at home, so your education becomes useless and wish you never stepped in school. Or maybe you want to continue and you tell your parents, who also try the much they can but because of poverty she can't manage to get a good college for you so that you can get a job, and with the present Kenya,

Int: Mhh

Resp4: you can only get a job if you have gone to school or may be in your family there are senior people who can assist

you secure employment or your mother has to bribe for a job for you. You will be going out with your certificates to look for job, and they are just there, but you find that somebody who went up to form to but because may be her uncle is a manager somewhere she will be employed, so those are the things that hinder us and especially in slums

Int: Mhh

Resp4: In fact your mind just rotates around the slums

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Because you don't even have money to go to big places. Even when you want to go out with certain friends you just feel you are a hindrance because you don't even have the faire to go there. You feel if you were well off and go to those big places you would....

Int2: What do you mean by big places?

Resp2: You are aware, not having your mind just rotating around the slums only and not beyond,

Int: OHH

RESP4: you are a person who can reach where people are launching something, places like colleges where you can see others graduating and that desire in you awakes and you feel if

so and so can graduate that means I can also learn and advance further that where I am .

Int: Ok

Resp2: Another problem is that boys or men nowadays are very irresponsible; they really play about with the lives of girls

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Someone impregnates you at this young age and realizes life is hard he abandons and goes for another one. So you are left with your child without a father, this can make somebody indulge in bad things like going to the road which is not good and that is because of problems you are experiencing.

Int: What do you mean by going to the road?

Resp3: Hahah.....going to places like Koinange Street

Resp6: Going to sleep with men so as to get money.

Int: Ok...fine. Thank you, another person? Is there any other problem besides what you have just mentioned?

Resp6: You see the way people stay here in the community, like four girls and two boys in one house. It has been your home since you were born, everything right from childhood till teenage all of you are still living under the same despite the fact that you are now adults and aware of

things like your sexuality, here you are with your parents still living together, this make girls to want to live their homes because they can't do there things freely being with the parents so they visit their friends who may be having two rooms, they pretend to visit them but there aim is to meet boyfriends.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: (Unintelligible, low tone)

Int: Ook fine is there any other problem that one would like to say which has not been mentioned here yet?

Resp8: Another problem is peer pressure from your girlfriends who influences you to do what they are doing

Int: Mhh

Resp8: But you don't know why they are doing.

Int: Mhh

Resp8: Yes

Int: Like what do they tell you to do?

Resp8: Like going to Koinange Street in town,

Int: Mhh

Resp8: You are under pressure to them because they do it but you don't know why they are doing that.

Int: Ok, any other thing that one would like to add?

Resp8: Mhh



Int: Yes?

Resp8: You know girls in the slums do not reach class eight,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: It is very hard to get a girl from the slums finishing  
class eight.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And the reason is that you can't learn when hungry and  
you can't work when you are hungry, you cannot read when  
you are hungry

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And you can imagine yesterday you didn't eat supper,  
today we didn't eat lunch, which means in class you  
cannot concentrate

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And this makes us leave school early, not because she has  
refused school she can learn

Int: Mhh

Resp3: But the capability of the parents and where they live,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Cannot allow her to work hard and even reach form four

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You see, so if you reach class six or seven you leave  
school

Int: Mhh

Res3: And because of that dropping out of school you become pregnant and you don't know how to care for a child because it is not something you have learnt about.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You find that there are others who have given birth but they are not responsible at all unless they get support from the mother so that this child can grow, it is hard. You know my mother was a single mother so we have the experience if you have not passed through experience, you find somebody just leaving the child without care.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She doesn't know how she can take care of that baby

Int: Mhh

Resp3: So those are the problems we are facing here

Int: Another person?

Resp5: You know in school, for example in a boarding school

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There are people with different backgrounds, in that some are rich.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Let say you have been asked to go with snacks to school

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And your parents are not able to give you, and that money for snacks you don't get and so you find the you your friends are capable or everything they are provided for, they go with those snacks and everyone at school is expected to do with snacks. Unfortunately you are not able to get that and so in such situations you become envious of them. While still under the circumstances you find a certain boy loves you, isn't it?

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And that he will provide you with what you lack,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If you can only accept him he will provide you with everything

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You will accept him so that he can provide you with everything. When you go back to school, you have snack, everything and when your friends are having fun you are also enjoying alongside them. So this boy will not give you these things for free, isn't it?

Int: Mhh

Resp5: He will not give you for free he will want to exchange something with that. And that something is not that you refund the money. He will want you to pay with your body,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And so if you agree to sleep with him and he was havin  
some disease

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Even if it is not HIV, there are STDs you can get like  
gonorrhea and such like and they cannot be seen

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And if you will not get that and be lucky and you are not  
infected, you become pregnant. That will make you drop  
out of school

Int Mhh

Resp: And may be you were determined to work hard and help your  
family come out of poverty. You will not be able to do  
because you have to drop out of school

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So you will be wondering how you will be able to take  
care of the baby when you give birth, where will I take  
it and may be your mother will tell you; don't enter this  
house with that pregnancy.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Maybe you terminate it or know where you will take it.

Int: Your parent asks you to abort it?

Resp5: Ehh She will tell you to do what you want to do

Int: Mhh

Resp5: because she doesn't have to ability to take care of you and your baby. She will tell you to do what you want with that pregnancy though she will not tell you directly to abort it. So you wonder what to do and maybe go to the owner and he tells you that pregnancy is not mine so know what to do with it. Go and tell whoever made you pregnant and so you will convince yourself and decide to terminate the pregnancy so that your mother can accept you back and maybe return to school.

Int: Mhh

Resp: So that is also a challenge for us girls here.

Int: Fine, I would like us to talk about the relationships that girls usually have? Some, we have talked about them like the ones of going to Koinange street, so they are sexual relationships, which other relationships are there for girls or your age in this community?

Resp4: The relationships that are common in the slums is that you can be in a relationship with somebody who is married and he doesn't want to tell you that he is married and that is wasting somebody because in most cases his family is doing well.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: He will not care much about you and maybe he has left you pregnant or he has infected you with a disease and when you go to tell him

Int: Mhh

Resp4: He will tell you that he is already married. You also find young girls engaging in.....you can find a girl who is 15 years

Int: Mhh

Resp4: In a relationship with a man who is fifty years or even sixty years not because she wants but it is because of money.

Int: Mhh

Rsp4: It is not her wish but it is the need of money that drives her to that because he can provide money but her age mate they can be friends but there is nothing he gives her

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Because these days with poverty on the increase jobs are also not available.

Int: So many girls are in relationship with these sugar daddies or adults?

All: Yes

Resp: Mhh

Int: Are there other relationships apart from the ones you have talked about?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there people who relate, like you have told me that girls have boyfriends and the pretend that they are going to visit their friends and yet they are going to sleep with their boyfriends?

All: Yes

Int: Are there others, who have sex, she had mentioned that a girl sleeps with men so that they get shopping? Are there relationships like that where girls sleep with men for them to get money to survive?

All: Yes there are many

Res: There are many

Int: Tell me about it

Resp4: I would like to go to school so that I can be like so and so,

Int: Mhh

Resp4: So and so learnt and went to college, and got a good job

Int: Mhh

Resp4 But I will say this is all I am missing, I will also go and sleep with somebody so that I can get the school shopping and be like so and so because she come with

everything at school. You can see our backgrounds are different and we may not be well off but because my mind is set on that particular thing, and since I am also human

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And still immature in the brain

Int: Mhh

Res4: You don't have the experience in life

Int: Mhh

Resp: You would have seen that we are not the same with so and so

Int: Ok

Resp4: Yes

Int: Anyone else who would like to add?

Resp: Silence

Int: I want us to talk about the consequences of these relationships, we have talked about girls who get pregnant and STDs, are there other problems

Resp: Mhh

Int: That arises from these relationships?

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh



Resp3: You can be in a relationship with somebody and yet you didn't know that he is married but when he approached you for a relationship you will gladly go into it after he looks like he is loaded. You will continue together and the day his wife will get you (all laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She will do you wonders

Int: Wonders!

Resp3: Yes.... she can even burn you with acid

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She can break your leg or even stab you with a knife. You know that you were not expecting to happen

Int: There are people who have experienced that?

All: Yes

Resp3: You are like this woman pulled me from the road, she grabs you and don't forget you don't know her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Maybe she has been passing around and cursing you; that one she will see I have been seeing her with my husband she will see. You are standing on the road you have no idea, someone just grabs you; come here, you are the one who has been moving with my husband and she either stabs

you and pours acid on your face or she can hit you with a blunt object and break your leg.

Int: You have nowhere to start from. Maybe someone has stabbed you with a knife and at our age, you were burnt and are admitted in a hospital for treatment, you can stay there for long time and for you to come out of there, your mother cannot even afford to get Sh500 that means she cannot afford even if she tried as hard unless a fundraising is done to assist you by a councilor, then that will help you (Laughter from the background)

Int: Fine

Resp4: So you will be left with a scar, and may be a baby

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And the man is not there to help you. In the first place the man is supposed to be apprehended

Resp: He needs to be caught

Resp4: I always say that if somebody finds you with her husband she should ask her husband why he is with me,

Int: Mhh

Resp4: They should not go after the girl because he is the one who came to me. We never go to them

Int: Mhh

Resp4: It is the men who come to us telling you that he is in love and that he is not married, you will only realize later in the relationship when you are in love and if you investigate that he is married and has a family and he start neglecting you.

Int: Is there any other problem that arises from those relationships?

Resp1: There are others, a man knows very well, even if it is a boy, he knows his status, and tell you, and maybe in your home you have problems, you cannot afford food or even a cup of tea

Int: Mhh

Res1: You cannot even afford water in the house,

Int: Mhh

Resp1: He comes and tells you, young girl, I seriously love you and I will marry you, this relationship will lead to marriage later.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Already he knows his status, maybe he is HIV or he might be suffering from another disease so you will tell him that you have also accepted the relationship so that he can also be giving you something for the family. When start relationship with him he will tell you to be

passing to pick...or whenever you pass by his place he will be giving you money when you meet like five hundred or one thousand, you will be happy thinking that you are lucky to be in love with a rich man. Then you will continue with the relationship and suddenly you will just realize that he has dumped you or he is no longer in love with you. Later you will begin feeling sick and if you go to inform him he will tell you to go to the hospital and when you go back the second day to visit him you will find his house vacant,

Int: Mhh

Resp1: if you try calling his cell phone he will be out of reach knowing that he has infected you with a certain disease

Int: Ok...it happens to many girls?

Resp1: Yes it happens to many girls

Int: Are there cases that force girls to be married?

Resp1: Yes it does

Resp6: Here in the ghetto, the main reason people get married early is hunger.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And if you can get someone who can stock flour in his house and you will be like; that man stocks flour when you go there is full stock and at your place

Int: Mhh

Resp6: There is nothing of the sort at your home, so you will work hard as a girl to make sure that you are married with him so that when you are there you can take one bag of maize flour to your mother to eat with your siblings.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: You will get married to him despite the situation you might be in.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: The other thing is just not the hunger, but you want to be smart. That dress that is the latest on fashion

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So and so is my age mate and she owns one and she is still in school so you will also want to buy it. The man has already read your mind and it is like he is weighing you

Int: Mhh

Resp1: He has already weighed you and knows that if he gives you food he will stay with you or if he buys the other one clothes then he will stay with me and that is another reason for girls getting married when they are still young.

Int: Mhh that is fine, now I would like us to discuss about early pregnancy in young girls and abortion in this community. What information do you have on early pregnancies amongst girls in this community?

Respl: First, this pregnancy comes in when you are still in school and as and because when you are in school and you see your desk mate coming to school with two hundred shilling daily, so you admire and ask yourself why you can' t also get money to use in school. When you ask her where she is getting money she will laugh at you and tell you that you are foolish and not alert to know where money can be got, so you will befriend her and ask her to show you how she gets money and that is when you will get a boyfriend. What hurts most is that you have been called foolish. For how long will you sit on your buttocks? And truly speaking she will come with Sh500 when she comes back and now you will be forced to join the bad group of girls who will introduce you to that life and a boyfriend who will be giving you money for the first and second time without sleeping with you so you will be happy and decide that if he asks you to sleep with him you agree so that he can continue giving you money to use in school. All this time he is cheating you

by acting innocent, you will be visiting him for one week and he will be giving you money, and not asking for sex, just to lay his grounds and you will continue going there to get money to go to school with. So one day he will ask you to give him something and you will not refuse because he has been giving you money.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: When you agree to sleep with him and may be you just experience your monthly period and you were not protected you will be pregnant and you are still young and not prepared to be a mother and nobody has ever told you that it is unsafe to sleep with man while just through your monthly period.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So you will be pregnant then when you go back to your house and look at the situation there and then you start asking yourself; "if my mother cannot afford money for food

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And even buy books

Int: since she is just washing clothes for Somali's to get money before we can have a meal in this house, and I want to give birth in our house this one house. My age just

not yet mature and in fact some even give birth when they are fourteen years old.

Int: Mhh

Respl: You are still under age and so you will be stranded with that pregnancy and if you go to that man he will say that he is not responsible for the pregnancy and if you want to continue with relationship he will give me money to go and terminate that pregnancy. I will be forced to agree because of the situation in our home and that is when abortion now comes in, because you have been impregnated without knowing and you are not prepared for pregnancy.

Int: Ok...So many girls at you age get pregnant early?

All: Yes.....

Int: Mhh Is it a problem?

All: It is a problem because...(crosstalk)

Respl: Yes it is a problem because you don't have a job and you don't money, it will force you to take care of the baby while you are still young

Int: Mhh

Respl: And cheating through your friends is what has led you to have this abortion, bad influence.

Int: Ok



Resp3: This will lead you to abortion and you may die because it is done with unqualified doctors

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Who just administer drugs to you and ask you to go home and take them.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: When you take them you start bleeding and when you are rushed to the hospital you are declared dead,

Int Mhh

Resp3: So you find girls like us dying because you didn't get a qualified doctor.

Int: Do you know girls who got pregnant early?

All: Yes

Int: Ok... We have talked of poverty or lack of money as causes of early pregnancy?

All: Mhh

Int: Is there any other reason that makes one get pregnant early?

Resp1: Yes adolescence

Resp5: Yes, lack of advice from the parents, parents should advise girls that when they start experiencing monthly period they are now mature and one could be pregnant if you are tricked into sleeping with a man. Nowadays

parents shy away from telling their children that if they sleep with men they will be pregnant, so you find a girl sleeping with a man because of lack of knowledge, she doesn't know that by after or before I have my periods I need to do this and this, so blindly she just goes about having sex with men. No parent has ever thought that this girl is getting mature and she needs advise so they shy away.

Int: Ok...

Resp4: If I also say something on the part of advice,

Int: Mhh

Resp4: I blame parents very much because you find that in school you reach class four

Int: Mhh

Resp4: you are taught how the body reacts and when you are at home parents do not advice their children and they tell you not to walk with boys not knowing that in school we relate with boys.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: I have class mates and teacher who are male and I related with them the whole day

Int Mhh

Resp4: So in the house you have your brother and father as male and you will ask yourself why your father does not want you to stroll with another boy, so out of curiosity you will be go to stroll with the boy to see what your father does not want you to see.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: So we want parents to advice children when they are at the adolescent stage how the body reacts, for them to be aware of what stage they are and if they behave in a way with a boy they will be pregnant, not to just warn them when they are at home and in school they mingle with boys. So the children will be curious to know what will happen if they do what their parents do not want them to do,

Int: So they do it out of curiosity?

Resp4: Yes and also nowadays they watch movies where they see people kissing. There are too many Soap Operas that we are watching and see these things being done

Int: Mhh

Resp4: So it is advisable for parents

Int: Mhh

Resp4: To be free with their children.

Resp1: Communicate with their children

Int: Ok.....I would like [name} to tell me why girls get pregnant early?

Resp2: It depends with parents, if somebody has no parents and she stays with somebody who is not good.

Int: Somebody who is not good how?

Resp2: You can find somebody who is an orphan, the parents died when she was still very young

Int: Mhh?

Rsp2: She has been living with an aunt and her aunt has a man in the house and they are staying in the same house.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She lives with this child who has now matured and starts also seeing what they are doing. That man can have bad intention, and her aunt is also not taking care of her, like buying clothes or school books for her because her aunt is saying she doesn't have money. All the time she keeps telling this girl she has no money.

Int: Mhh

Resp: So the girl will share that with her friends who will advise her to get a boyfriend

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Who will take care of your needs.

Int: Ok.... are there people who get pregnant because may be she used family planning and it never worked for her?

All: Yes

Resp3: If you delay in taking pills you will be pregnant, the ones for hand you will still be pregnant and even injection you will be pregnant. (Laughter)

Int:

Resp3: So we don't know the best form for prevention? (Laughter)

Int: Does it happen to many people?

Resp: Yes .....they all agree.....

Int:

Resp: People complain about these methods very much

Int: Explain to me Tina? How family planning makes girls become pregnant?

Resp6: Family planning, in this place people begin using them when they are still young, you will find somebody in school and she has started using them, may be pills, and when she does a mistake, that is how she becomes pregnant immediately.

Int: She does which mistake?

Resp6: She takes it late.

Int: Ok.....and are there girls who get pregnant because they have been raped?

All: Yes.

Resp3: That is now the worst because you don't know the father  
of the baby (Laughter)

Int: It happens here very much?

Resp4: It is the worst because in most cases it happens with  
drunkards (Murmur in the background)

Resp: Not even drunkards alone, even boys do that (crosstalk)

Int: Can you tell me one by one? Let's listen to one person?

Resp3: You know what? It is not drunk men do that raping only,  
young men do it,

Int: Mhh

Resp: and also adults.

Int: Mhh

Resp: You will find an adult man goes to have sex with a small  
girl whose breasts have not even come out.

Int: Mhh

Resp: Because he will pretend to send a child to the shop go  
and buy for bread, you bring, bring for me milk, you  
bring because you have to respect adults.

Int: Mhh

Resp: Bring for me credit card and finally he will tell you to  
help him load the credit in his phone, and you will do it  
still in respect of his age, it will reach a time as you

are struggling to scratch the credit card he will push back the door and lock it and tell you to give him. He will even threaten you with a knife and this being a child with no breasts, he will be scared, a knife, so for a child she will feel terrified and the man will rape her and you find the child injured in her private part so she will have to be treated. Even neighbors tend to rape children also.

Int: Ok

Respl: Another problem is that there can be a boy who has been bothering you, following you everyday. He keeps counting the number of times you have rejected him and so let's say you are in the house and your mother is cooking, you will have to help her because you cannot just sit in the house and let your mother do everything for you. It will be embarrassing and so when your mother sends you, you have no choice but to go. She will send you to the shop while she has money to go and buy food. When you go to the shop and meet that boy he will tell you that he has been seducing you and you are not giving in, he may have smoked cannabis sativa just because of you, so that if you refuse he calls other boys to rape you, even if they are ten boys they will direct you to a house and rape you

with you just because you refused to befriend the first boy.

Int: That often happens here?

Resp: Yes

Int:

Resp8: You can be approached by boys and you just be friends but refuse to have sex with them so the day and so they gang up and lay a plan for you. Let say one of his friends also tells you that he loves you then you agree to sleep with him, when the first boy realizes that you are cheating on him they will plan and gang-rape you with his friends because you have been cheating them and they can beat you after raping.

Int: (Laughter) you have been cheating on them?

Resp8: Yes..... (Laughter)

Int: How do the boys who have impregnated the girls feel?

(Laughter from the background and murmuring)

Int: Let's hear from one person?

Resp5: Some boys, after impregnating you will abandon you.

Int: Ok.....

Resp5: Others after impregnating you will tell you that you have been sleeping with other men also and not him alone. Others are very bitter if you tell him about the



pregnancy that he can even beat you (Laughter from the background.)

Resp6: Some will impregnate you and after that they will be very hostile with you while hurling insults at you that you were like a public vehicle who everybody was boarding, now you are coming to me while pregnant. If you ask his friends what he is saying about the child you will find he is happy about you carrying his child and he is even telling his friends that he will come for the child, so when you meet him he will pretend to be very harsh on, but after struggling to take care of the baby he will come back claiming the baby. That is also a problem because he abandons you because he doesn't want to be responsible. Once you give birth he comes round again

Resp: Another one will come and steal the baby from you that his baby cannot stay anywhere else and he cannot live with a prostitute, he now also uses insulting language.

Int: Are there boys who feel great men after impregnating a girl?

Resp3: Yes, he will even tell his friends how he is a man after impregnating you and claim to be a father,

Int: Mhh

Resp: But he is a useless father because when you tell him that the child is lacking something he will chase you away instead. He doesn't want to be responsible at all

Int: Mhh

Resp3: When you go with the baby to him he will brag to his friends how his baby is smart.

Int: Do these boys shy after impregnating a girl?

Resp: Yes ....they all agree

Int: Let's listen to one person.

Resp1: Yes, sometimes they deny that they are responsible for the pregnancy, like me when I gave birth the baby resembled the boy who abandoned me, even I feel ashamed when walking with baby taking the baby or taking the baby to school. So they fell shy because they deny being responsible for the pregnancy but afterwards it comes out clear that he is the father of the child.

Int: Why do you also feel shy?

Resp1: When I walk around with the baby people ask me that "is this not that man's child? They say that the child resembles his father, so I feel ashamed.

Int: Ok you were telling us about embarrassment

Resp1: Another thing that makes boys to deny a child after impregnating a girl is that he may be having another

girlfriend, so he will deny the child because if the other girl gets to know that he impregnated another girl she will break up with him. He may be a boy who has no job so he will deny the child to avoid being told that the baby is sick for him give out money for medication and he doesn't have, so he would rather deny the baby and claim him/her later.

Int: What do people say about those men?

Resp: People talk bad about them;

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Because he denies the baby so he can't tell somebody that he has a child because original he had refused the baby. He boasts and says; I am a father and when you face him he will even beat you because you have called him a father (Laughter from the background)

Int: What do people say about men who have impregnated young girls when they gossip about them?

Resp5: A girl may be pregnant when she is still young say fourteen or thirteen years, she is still underage you know, and you know that is like forcing a girl to love, it is not a genuine thing that you really were after friendship. So when people meet her you will hear them talk bad about the person who impregnated her, somebody

can say "the boy who was responsible for this girl's pregnancy was supposed to be punished because this is like rape how does he impregnate a small girl and deny? This person was suppose to be punished but there is nobody to start the issue, so you will hear people wishing them bad things to him. Others will say; look he has impregnated her, then he has rejected her, now this poor girl and her family, this person needs to be apprehended.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Sometimes also we blame the friends that girls walk with and the parents because they will insist that the man you are saying to be responsible is not, because according to be parents they feel that the man is older than there girl so he can't be responsible for the pregnancy. So the man will feel ashamed and shy away. So parents contribute a lot to some of the things that happen to girls.

Int: Are there girls who force themselves to men just to be pregnant? (Laughter from the background)

Resp: Yes, it is just what she has told us that I feel bad about it, I was just expressing my disgust at such me to her.

Int: Are there girls who want to get pregnant early and may be his boyfriend does not want?

Resp5: Yes... lets say I have a child, that will make my friend to go to her boyfriend to tell him that she also wants a baby, she can't take long to give birth and her friend has a baby. You know nowadays even boys go for family planning because they don't want children, but that girl will keep on bothering him about wanting a baby until finally the boy will decide to impregnate her. So it happens to both sexes.

Int: Ok

Resp3: And also us girls you may be walking with friends who have children, when they discussing and you also contribute they insult you that you don't have a child what do you know, that you are barren there is no day you will give birth, that to them you are like a child. What can you tell us, get away. Shut up and they will insult you until you decide to get pregnant. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp4: Some ladies were saying nowadays you just give birth and take care of the baby alone, and may be you have decided to wait for God to give you somebody to marry you and

assist you to take care of the baby when you give birth. You will see another lady with many children, she will even tell you how she doing well with her children and leaving a decent life, so you will be under peer pressure to also get pregnant and give birth because they also encouraged you. That peer pressure also contributes a lot to that.

Int: Yes tell us?

Resp5: Yes you can just see how somebody is dressing her child then you admire and say you also wish you had a baby; this will make you to decide to get pregnant. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp6: Another lady would just want to get pregnant so that his boyfriend does not seduce another girl.

Int: (Laughter).....so he wants to get hold of him?

Resp: Yes

Resp1: Also you can be in a relationship with a boy from a wealthy family, so you will be willing to get pregnant for him, so that his parents may welcome you and take care of your and the baby, and with his baby it will not be easy for you to separate.

Int: Now I want us to talk about how girls cope with these early pregnancies. We have talked of abortion, which other way do girls deal with early pregnancies?

Resp4: You keep pregnancies and sale the baby

Int: People sale babies?

Laughter from the background

Resp3: Yes at Huruma Nursing and you are given some money you just talk to the doctor.

Int: Ok

Resp3: That is good money

Int: Mhh

Resp4: They have even written on the notice board "don't throw the baby" they want you to give birth and take the baby to them

Int: Ok

Resp: So you just talk to the doctor and tell him that the father of the child does not want the baby, and you are given some money as a witness.

Int: How much are you given as a witness? (Laughter murmuring from the background)

Resp: You can be given ten thousand or twenty thousand that is a lot of money. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Therefore many girls do that?

All: Yes

Int: Are there girls who commit suicide because they are pregnant?

Resp3: Yes.....because some men promise you that they will marry, they assure you that if you get pregnant for him he will never leave you. So you agree to get pregnant for him but the day you inform him that you are pregnant that is the day he will divorce you, you will have shared with friends how you will be married, and considering how you loved each other and how people have talked about your relationship how you love each other and how you will marry, that you have been long in relationship to even give birth. When you tell him about pregnancy he will deny of knowing how it came about and abandon you. So you will be ashamed when he abandons you because the respect you had with people will fade, you will be demoralized and hate yourself, and that will lead you to suicide, you will just kill yourself.

Int: Many girls do that?

All: Yes

Int: Are there girls who kill the babies?

All: Yes

Int: How?



Resp3: You know when giving birth while you are alone its difficult to push the baby to come out, when the babies head is almost out you stop pushing and the baby dies. Since there is no one to supervise you, you simply don't push and the baby will suffocate inside there.

Int: Many girls do that?

Resp6: Yes.....some gives birth and throws the baby in a river or in a pit.

Resp5: Another one will give birth and leave the umbilical cord without covering then the baby dies.

Resp6: Or she leaves the umbilical cord to bleed until the baby dies.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Another one will suffocate the baby with a big blanket.  
(Laughter)

Int: You have told me that some girls throw the baby away are there girls who decide to get married?

Resp2: Yes some decide to get married.

Int: What do boys do?

Resp1: Sometimes he will marry but he was never in love with you he was just pretending or he is forced. After marrying you he can stay with you for sometime and he starts frustrating you, telling you how he cannot marry because

his parents do not want and you just know how many boys respect their parents.

Int: I want us to talk about how boys deal with pregnancy, you have told me that they do deny after making a girl pregnant. How else do they deal with pregnancy apart from denying the pregnancy?

Resp8: Some boys are not bad in that if he makes you pregnant and he did not have a job, he will look for job so that he can take care of his baby.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Some parents are also good in that if his son makes you pregnant she will take care of the baby if her son is still going to school, and he will tell you that he will marry you when he completes school, there are some that happens that way or some just marry you because he has make you pregnant.

Int: Ok

Resp3: You can find somebody who does not have a job and he has make you pregnant, he will not run away but he will tell you to give birth and his mother will take care of the baby.

Int: Ok....

Resp6: Another boy will tell you to give birth and he will marry you when he completes school, when you agree and give birth when you are at your home he completes school then he goes away with the child.

Int: Are their boys who tell you to give birth and you sale the baby?

Resp3: Yes...and you share the money with him. (Laughter)

Int: Why does he tell you sell the baby?

Resp4: Because he doesn't have job or he says he didn't tell you to give birth.

Int: Why do boys deny pregnancy?

Resp1: Because they are not able to take care of the child, when the baby is sick and a girl ask him for money, clothes, soap he will say he never told you to give birth. May be he was still going to school and was just cheating you that he is working while giving you money that he was given by parents to use in school as pocket money. So when he realizes that you are pregnant and you will give birth for him to take care of the baby he may be forced to deny the pregnancy because of the requirement of taking care of a baby.

Int: Are there boys who convince a girl to abort? You have told me that there some who give you money?

Resp2: Yes... He will sweet talk you to go and abort that you are still young to give birth just accept money to go and abort and if you refuse he will tell you that he is still young and that he not ready to be a parent. He is not ready to be stressed at all.

Int: What else make them tell you to abort apart from requirements for taking care of the baby?

Resp: They shy away because friends will tell him that he is a father as young as he is and he will not even want his other friends to know that he has impregnated a girl.

Resp: Others if they have friends he will be told how he has an ugly girlfriend whom he cannot even stroll with to town.  
(Laughter)

Int: Is it a must that you give birth with a beautiful lady?

Resp3: Yes... they say you are ugly and that somebody cannot walk with you, they even call you funny names. (Laughter from)

Int: What?

Resp3: Names like "Msondo bongo" (Laughter)

Int: Mhh what else?

Resp2: Some are not ready to be parents, he has money but he is not ready to give you or to buy for the child anything, because if you he accept the baby you will force him to marry you.

Int: Are there men who decide to marry girls if they impregnate them?

Resp4: Yes...some marry you not because he loves you but because of his baby and he will even tell you that you are at his place because of his child, and the money he is giving you is because of his child.

Int: What problems do girls who get pregnant and decide to give birth and take care of the babies under go?

Resp3: They lack nappies, money; they just do shoddy jobs to get money

Int: Let hear from one person?

Resp1: Sometimes the baby is sick and you don't have money.

Int: Another person?

Resp3: May be you wanted to buy clothes for him and you don't have money. He has reach a stage of going to school, the baby will ask you why he is not going to school and some children are going. You will be forced to start looking for money to take him to school and that will make you go Koinange Street to look for money so that your child can also have a decent life, it will force you practice prostitution just to get money your child to go to school

Int: Another problem that they get?

Resp1: When the baby is going to school and he sees other children with there father, may be he is going to baby class and other children have there father, he will ask you where is his father or even call a neighbor his father.(laughter)

Int: Ok

Resp8: Also when it reaches Christmas time and other children are dress with new clothes he will ask you where his father is for also to put on smartly? (Laughter)

Int: Ok

Resp3: you will be forced to look for sugar daddy.(laughter)

Int: Are they ashamed by people because they don't take proper care of their babies?

Resp1: Yes... if your child is not going to school the neighbors will tell you that you are just eating and you can't take your baby to school, and may be you are not just eating, you just have fifty shillings in your pocket which cannot take a child to school.

Resp2: They will tell you that you were supposed to close the place for giving birth and leave the place for enjoying. You gave out the place for birth and locked the place for enjoying now look at how your child is untidy he has

turned your house into a hotel. Look at how your child is dirty. (Laughter)

Resp2: You are insulted until you just feel like throwing the baby into the pit.

Int: Are there girls who are abandoned by parents when they get pregnant?

Resp1: Yes

Int: I would like us to discuss the ways girls deal with these problems? You have told me washing clothes, going to koinange to get money? Are there any other ways they use to handle those problems?

Resp2: You can leave your baby with your mother and go to do house work, stealing.

Int: Stealing, what else?

Resp3: Selecting beans.

Int: Another one?

Resp4: You work with thieves; you keep for them weapons for stealing?

Int: Weapons like?

Resp5: Taiwan (Laughter)

Int: (Laughter) they steal and ....

Resp6: Yes, and they give you money after selling the things they stole.

Int: Many girls do that?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Ok, that is another way of surviving, is there any other way?

Resp8: Looking for relationship with married men, so that your child can have a father. (Laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp8: That person will bring money for you like hundred shilling.

Int: ok

Resp7: Some go to sell liquor; there is a lot of problem in slums.

Int: What problems do the men who take of children under go?

Resp6: Some do steal, go to work at the construction site and if you get one doing that it means (unintelligible) refused, some carry loads

Int: Mhh

Resp6: at the market to take care of his child.

Int: Any other problem they experience? What else do they do to get money?

Resp4: They sell their bodies. (Laughter)

Int: Where do they sell their bodies?



Resp: To men like them or to sugar mummies, especially in Buruburu. (Laughter)

Int: Is there any other problem that we have not talked about?  
Ok what can we add about the unplanned pregnancies?

Resp3: I would request that if we are to avoid getting things like that then we should be helped, like getting job. I even think there is no need of going to school because you have struggle to study, even if you have certificates you cannot get a job; you will just sell vegetables with your mother. You can search for a job until you give up because there is no job, you will find a person who is educated up to university and a form four leaver doing housemaid job and a person who has reached class seven is working in the office. So it all about money for you to work there, I was requesting if we can get jobs this problem will be over and we can be very happy.

Int: We will talk more about how these problems can be solved.  
I want us to talk about abortion? At what rate is abortion?

All: Abortion is very high

Int: Why do you say it is high?

Resp:8 Your friend can tell you that if you want to do abortion just take ten panadol and you will terminate it or just

buy juice and take without mixing with water or mix Omo with water and drink.

Int: Ok

Resp5: And what causes abortion is that a boy after impregnating you will abandon you, and you will think of how men obey there parents know that he will not be willing to marry you. So you will compare yourself with a lady that was pregnant and performed abortion and you will also do it, so that you will not be stressed with a baby, because the boy responsible has been told many bad things about you that, you were being cleaned as they see, they were cleaning your nose just recently, that am older than him, that they always see you with different men, and now her son wants to carry the burden of pregnancy. But you only knew him as your boyfriend, so you will say I can't under go the stress of a child and boyfriend I better abort the pregnancy and remain alone.

Int: Do you all agree that abortion is at high rate?

All: Yes

Int: Why do you say it is high?

Resp3: The way we see even mature mothers do abort, nowadays girls are throwing babies but mature mothers do abortion, you can find a mature mother who is a divorcee and has

children and grand children but she still get pregnant.

(Laughter)

Resp: It will force her to abort because that child has no father; it's like giving birth because of demons.

(Laughter)

Int: Do you see abortion as something normal? Or it is a problem?

Resp: It is a problem because you can do it and die or you may never give birth again. Like there is a lady who did it and she has never given birth since then.

Int: Do you personally know people who have done abortion; girls of your age?

All: Yes

Int: May be you know girls from this area who have done abortion?

Resp1: Yes they are here; even those who have sold children are just here.

Int: I want us to talk about reasons for them aborting? One is to be abandoned.

Resp2: Some wants to go back to school.

Resp3: Some do abortion to show up, they say they can't breast fed because their breast will look old.

Resp4: May be a girl loved another boy and she has been  
impregnated with a boy whom she never loved.

Resp5: The background of a girl can make her do abortion because  
she has no place to live with the baby.

Int: Is there any other reason that causes one to do abortion?  
Tina?

Resp6: Poverty.

Int: Are there those who do abortion because they have been  
raped?

All: Yes

Int: Is there a girl who does abortion because she is ashamed?

All: Yes

Resp: Because some mother will gossip about her that she was  
pretending to be going to school and now she is pregnant  
that will make her abort. (Laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You will find a mother saying she has grand children, and  
she is also pregnant she better do abortion.

Int: What is people's opinion about abortion in the community  
in Korogocho?

Resp3: People have talked about it for so long, they have even  
protested about it, and they have even reported the  
matter to the administration but instead of it reducing

it is when it is on the rise, so they are even tired of it. At times if you go to work at the Kazi Kwa Vijana program, when cleaning the drainage you come across a baby in the drainage, if you move ahead with cleaning you meet another baby, you come across even ten babies in one drainage system. As we work on drainage on the programmed of "Kazi kwa Vijana" when we come across a baby we bury thinking they are few only to find that they are many so you wonder. People have talked about it here in slums until they are now tired because there is no change.

Int: How do people talk about it?

Resp6: They say it is not right for people to do abortion and it should stop, they tell people that instead of doing abortion they better give birth and sale the children to Mother Teresa (Laughter)

Int: Am also called Teresa (Laughter)

Resp4: The youths are even worse because they better do sex without protection, and do abortion they don't fear anything nowadays.

Resp2: It is better you give birth and sale.

Int: Ok .....you also think that way?

Resp2: Yes....It is better than doing abortion.

Int: Ok

Resp7: And again when doing abortion you won't be sure of the outcome because you can either die or survive.

Int: Ok

Resp7: May be you have gone to the doctor and you have been given excess drugs, this may cause your death and the baby. So you will have lost because you wanted to abort the baby and you have also died.

Int: Ok

Resp7: Because people usually do it when they are depressed, you when you do something when depressed you will die even if you were supposed to survive.

Int: Ok

Resp7: And again after doing abortion you will be guilty, when you hear a baby crying you will just think of your aborted baby.

Int: Ok

Resp7: Like I went to do abortion and when I reached there and saw how the tools are arranged I run back home and the first stop was under the bed. (Laughter). When I watch my son walking I just ponder and say what if I would have aborted my child, so I am now happy to be called a mother.

Int: I want us to talk about the methods people use to do abortion? You have said panadol, Omo.

Resp8: You can be given herbal drug and you are told to drink daily, and fetus will come out

Int: Mhh

Resp8: You are injected with salty water, and it is three injections in a day and they don't use the normal syringe. They use the syringe for injecting cows, they put salty water full then he injects your buttocks.

(Laughter)

Int: Mhh(still laughing)

Resp1: By the time you are injected the baby has already expanded then he inserts a metal to remove the baby, and you know when he is inserting that metal you feel pain.

Int: So who does that?

Resp1: The doctors in the hospitals, they use salty water to do abortion.

Int: O...there is somebody who said Omo? How is it used?

Resp2: It is mixed with water and you drink?

Int: Then after drinking?

Resp2: The pregnancy is aborted.

Int: Ok

Resp4: You can be told to buy quinine tablet and take, that also can abort the pregnancy. You are told to take two quinine tablets daily.

Int: How is Jik used?

Resp4: Jik is bad, she used and it was not successful.

Int: Ok

Resp8: There are also tealeaves.

Int: How is tea leaves used?

Resp8: You buy a big sachet of ketepa then you mix with water and boil it until it turns black then you close your eyes as you drink. (Laughter)

Int: Then.....

Resp8: When you open your eyes the pregnancy is already aborted. (Laughter)

Int: Is there another method of terminating pregnancy? Those are the ones people use at home. Do they also use tea leave in the hospitals?

Resp3: No, in the hospitals you are given medicine, or they inject you with water

Int: Are there known places where if you want terminate pregnancy you can go?

All: Yes

Int: Like where?



Resp2: There is one called relief.

Int: Many girls go there

Resp1: Yes

Int: What do they do to them?

Resp1: He is a doctor but I hear he is perfect in abortion.

Int: Ok, I want us to talk about the problems a girl under goes when she decides to do abortion?

Resp2: The problem is, one is when the boy deny the pregnancy and again quarrels from your mother in the house, even friends avoid your company and you remain lonely. So you imagine the loneliness and your friends are fine, that will make you decide to do abortion.

Resp3: May be you were impregnated with a person who is married and you don't want to embarrass your parents.

Int: I am asking, when a girl has decides to do abortion what problem does she undergo? May be lack of money?

Resp3: When you go to the hospital the doctor will charge you high, because he is also afraid of the law. He will ask you what if he is found assisting you to do abortion and he is prosecuted what will you do?

Int: Then..

Resp4: He will also ask you how much will you give him for assisting you, once he agrees he will turn round for you

to put the money in his pocket he wont accept to receive the money with his hands. (Laughter)

Int: Why will he not receive the money with his hands?

Resp5: Because it money paid for killing, so he will charge you like ten thousand and their some who are not bright who will ask for five or four thousand. So you will go back to the house to look fro money because you may have carried one thousand.

Int: What other problem do they undergo apart from money?

Resp5: The things used for abortion like juice or Omo.

Int: Ok, may be you don't have juice (Laughter) is there fear of your life?

Resp3: You know once you have decided to do abortion it means you are even ready to die or may be you survive, that is something you go while aware of, it also applies to giving birth there is that possibility of either dying in the process or you survive

Int: What problem do girls experience after abortion? One was possibility of dying.

Resp8: You know part of feotus always remain in the body be fore you are cleaned, so when you are with your friends they will feel bad smell and ask about, saying it is smelling like a corpse. Some people feel stomachache after

abortion; you may also remain barren if they do abortion in a bad way like. I have never done abortion but have seen friends who have done it.

Int: Yes, you can explain experience of a friend who has done it.

Resp3: Like when using salty water and he inserted a metal to remove the foetus he may damage your uterus then you will be force to go treatment and the doctor may be forced to remove the uterus and that means you will remain barren and not give birth to a baby again.

Int: is there any other problem of abortion? Fraith had talked about stress?

Resp4: Yes when you don't have a baby you will be depressed, may be God has blessed you with a husband and you can't give birth because you had done abortion, and may be you had only one egg, it will force you to look for medicine so that you can be able to give birth again.

Int: Medicine for? Giving birth?

Resp4: Yes

Int: Are girls who are sent away from home because they did abortion?

Resp2: Yes.....in unison

Int: Then....

Resp2: You may do abortion or somebody can miss lead you and do abortion in secret without the knowledge of parents, when they come to know it will be bad to her, she will tell you that you would have given birth and gave her the child to look after instead of doing abortion.

Int: Are there girls who are forced dropped out of school because they did an abortion?

Resp8: They usually continue with school

Int: Somebody told me about Mama Teresa, is it a Hospital or what is it?

Resp8: It is a home?

Int: It is a children home?

Resp8: Yes.

Int: When you give birth what do you do?

Resp8: You sale the baby?

Int: How much do you sale the baby?

Resp8: You are the one to decide.

Resp7: They do a follow up to determine whether you are not able to take care of the baby.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Nowadays they don't take, they used to ask you questions like where is the father of the baby, what is your status

whether you are sick or not, are you working or not, I hear they ask such like questions.

Int: So they can even refuse to take the baby?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Ok.

Resp3: Nowadays they don't pay for the baby, you just sign that the baby is yours or not at the chief's camp. So unless you found the baby on the street is when they will take the baby, but if the baby is yours they won't take him.

Int: Ok

Resp3: They will only encourage you to take care of the baby.

Int: Ok

Resp3: Some people take the baby there then when the baby has grown they go back to claim the baby. So you agree with them that they take care of the baby then you will take him later, but you will have to pay them while taking the baby.

Int: How much do you pay them?

Resp2: They just charge you according to the age of the child.

Int: Ok

Resp2: I know of a parent of who took a child there because the mother of the child died and he went to pick him when he

had reached class two, so a case like that you will pay them.

Int: What about Huruma Nursing? People do sale children?

Resp3: Yes, they just sale children, you know mostly rich people do not have children. So they buy children from there or adopt, they go for that shortcut.

Int: How much do they buy a child?

Resp1: They can even buy at fifty thousand or thirty thousand, and may be the baby was bought at ten thousand or fifteen thousand, so it is business.

Resp2: When you give birth at the hospital they can exchange your child with a dead one when you are still unconscious

Int: The girls decide to sell or they are sometimes forced?

Resp3: At times they decide to sale, but sometimes you don't intend to sale and again the bills in the hospital can make one to run and leave the baby at the hospital.

Int: The girls do that?

Resp4: Yes they do, because may be the child was born with a problem then the bill has been high due to treatment and you are not able to get money so you just leave the child and run away.

Int: Linda you have talked about Relief? A place where people go to do abortion? Is it a hospital?

Resp4: It is a place where people give birth; there is a doctor there but I can't say he is a doctor.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Yes he is a doctor working at Kenyatta National Hospital.

Int: So he has a hospital called Relief?

Resp5: Yes, he has set up a place, where girls go to do abortion.

Int: How much does he charge to do abortion?

Resp7: People say he charge them very expensive.

Int: You have said he is a doctor at Kenyatta?

Resp5: Yes, and he has set up a hospital.

Int: Fine, a girl who wants to do abortion talks to whom before he goes to do abortion?

Resp8: May be her mother.

Resp2: No, she doesn't tell her mother, you tell your friend

Int: There is a girl who can tell her parent?

Resp2: If your parent is harsh you won't tell her, but it also depends how your parent will react, some parent will tell you that she doesn't want to see and another may tell to just come stay in her house. So there are parents who understand the situation you are in, they will tell you that you will go to abort but the pregnancy is just growing big and finally you give birth

Int: So you have said she will tell her friend but not her mother?

Resp6: A parent can tell her that I have been paying money at school and you go and get pregnant, go to the person responsible for that pregnancy or you go away you only come back her without pregnancy. So in such a situation you can't tell your parent.

Int: Ok

Resp6: So it will force you to tell your friend, that I have a certain problem, and then she will advise you to go and abort the pregnancy like her.

Int: Why do someone decide to share with her friend than sharing with her parent?

Resp3: It depends with her relationship with the parent; she may not be free with her parent.

Int: Why?

Resp3: She knows if she shares with her parent she will be sent away.

Int: Why do you choose to share with your friend?

Resp2: So that your friend can assist you, maybe your parent has been harsh to you. She says she doesn't want to get involved in your pregnancy because when you were going to get it you never told her. You just go to inform her when



you want to abort; it will force you to humble yourself because you did a mistake.

Int: Ok

Resp2: If you tell your mother that you want to do abortion she will tell you not to share with her because she can't take care of you and your baby, use your common sense you are grown up. That is when you will decide to go to your friend and share with her, how you are stressed and it has reached a point where you can commit suicide, please help me. Then she will ask you how? Because of the pregnancy and then she will tell you how foolish you are and advise you to go and do abortion at the hospital.

Int: Ok

Resp3: They will even do fund-raising and give you money.

Int: They will give you money?

Resp4: Yes, so long as you terminate the pregnancy. (Laughter)

Int: Ok

Resp4: But when you disagree they will insult you how they assisted you to do abortion.

Int: Is there any other person that a girl can consult before she goes to do abortion?

Resp5: May be your cousin or your sister.

Int: Sheila you said somebody can tell her parent?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Why?

Resp7: Let say the pregnancy is still at the early stage you will tell your parent early because even if you keep quiet it will grow and she will know. So it is better you know whether she will allow you to stay there. Your mother will tell you hoe harsh your father is, that will make you be scared, and again you a father cannot tell you to go and do abortion but your mother will, fathers do not allow abortion but mothers do allow much. Your mother will tell you to go because she will be quarreled by the father.

Int: Why mothers?

Resp8: You will be forced to go away because you don't have where to stay.

Int: Ok

Resp8: Your father will keep on insulting; you are also a mother that you are also waiting to give birth you fool. Your father will tell you that he now have to wives in the house. (Laughter) You will persevere, but your mother is gentle, but she will tell you that you want ruin her marriage. You know your father will always quarrel your mother if anything bad happens, like if you are failing

in school he will say you are foolish like your mother,  
if you get pregnant the blame goes to the mother.

Int: Ok

Resp3: You can find the father insulting the mother that she  
foolish as her child who is pregnant. So your mother will  
tell you to go and do abortion before your father comes  
back from work.

Int: Is there any other person you can tell either in church  
or at school?

Resp2: Yes, we can tell the pastor or priest or women leader

Int: That you want to do abortion?

Resp2: No, for him to help you, so the pastor will call you and  
two women to advise you. So you will tell them how you  
are pregnant and your father is harsh and your mother is  
telling you that you have caused her marriage problem.  
Because my father paid school fees for me and if he finds  
out that I am pregnant that will cause problems to my  
mother, so I have decided to go and do abortion, for my  
mother to stay in her house, you will ask them to advise  
you or see how they can help you. You will find a good  
person volunteering to help or they will say they will  
take you to Huruma Nursing or to old men, after giving  
birth, you will leave the child there and continue with

school. They will advise your mother to tell your father if he asks your mother about you, to say you were transferred to a boarding school, then after completing school you will go for the child

Int: They said they would take you to old men?

Resp2: Yes old men's place in ngong or Kasarani or kariobangi

Int: They take all people who are not able to upkeep themselves?

Resp3: Yes, even old men and women or drunken men or ladies or women who are just leading a life of alcohol. They will take you there and teach you how to cook until such a time that you are now behavior well then they will release you to come back and lead your life.

Resp4: They can also take you to work as a house girl when you are pregnant

Int: ok

Resp4: When you are pregnant you can be taken with rich people then you stay with them until you give birth, then they tell you that you will talk so you will just be there working and they pay you, but you will be working as you ask yourself that you will talk with them about what.

Int: What do you think they say?

Resp8: He can tell you to leave for him the baby or get married to her.

Int: Is there somebody who can be consulted in school? When you want to do abortion?

Resp5: Yes, teacher like, the Principle or if it is primary school you can talk to head teacher, if she is a madam you can tell her that you were a friend to a certain boy, that adolescent stage affected you and you got pregnant so I have decided to do abortion how will you help me?

Int: Why do you choose to tell the teacher? And there are many people whom can tell?

Resp5: You can share with your home science teacher because a teacher teaching mathematics cannot be able to do mathematics in stomach, but the home science or science teacher we know definitely that it is adolescent stage that affected you, so you have also asked why we go to the teacher than any other person isn't it?

Int: Yes

Resp5: If you look at your place and you find that they just quarrel you and another thing we have grown without our parents telling you that you have now reached a certain stage that you have a boyfriend or you have reached a stage where you can get pregnant so be careful. It can

reach a time you are pregnant then you tell your mother that you are not experiencing your periods, she will tell that you are pregnant that is up to you, you will not stay here and may be you are not social with other people, because your mother is harsh with, you will decide to go and talk to a teacher that you are free with, and tell her your problem.

Int: Ok, is there any other person you can tell and we not talked about? Or what have I not ask you about abortion and it happens here?

Resp6: You have not asked us how one can take care of her self?

Int: ok, I want to ask you now? Laughter, in your opinion how can early pregnancy in girls between fifteen years to nineteen years be prevented?

Resp7: There are condoms nowadays, but you go to visit your boyfriend and instead of using condom he will tell you that if you love him you have to do sex without condom.

(Laughter)

Int: Then..

Resp7: So you will agree to do without using condom. (Laughter)  
So that he will know that you love him and you don't know if you do sex without using condom you will either be infected with a disease or get pregnant that is something

you don't know. That time he will be asking you whether you love him and you will be saying yes, then he will ask you why you bought condom? Then you will say, is because you don't want to get pregnant then he will say if you love him you have to do sex without condom. So you will agree to do without condom. (Laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp7: Because boys have frustrated us for a longer time we should also use our five common senses, we can use the female condoms and they will not

Int: Mhh

Resp7: But that is expensive, it is not like men's that you can get anywhere hanged in kariobangi, Korogocho for ladies are not hanged.

Int: Yes

Resp8: It is expensive but it is good to use it, but instead of all that stress of abortion, you can buy for forty shilling.

Int: How much is it that is expensive?

Resp8: It is forty shillings.

Int: Forty shillings?

Resp8: No, it is not forty shillings.

Int: Then...

Resp5: It is one hundred and fifty shillings each, and you don't have a job, will I buy five and I don't have money? So we just trust in God.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Sometimes you can also put on but when you do sex he will insert beside that female condom. Men condom can burst.  
(Laughter)

Int: Ok

Resp6: Women who have that female condom taught me that when you put it on you will have to insert it, because he doesn't know, he could insert and push it inside. (Laughter)

Int: Ok we are talking about how many methods can solve this problem of early pregnancy in girls? She said condom could prevent?

Resp2: Condom can burst.

Int: So you think cannot help?

Resp2: Condom can help, but you find it can burst, so you can get pregnant or be infected with a disease. You know one will not realize when it bursts and may be he felt when it burst but he will not tell you eh will just continue doing, so when you go to test for pregnancy you will find yourself pregnant. You will ask yourself that didn't he used a condom? It burst without you knowing, when you



tell him he will tell you that you even so him using  
condom. (Laughter)

Int: Yes

Resp4: You saw me with a condom, I told you to do it with me  
without condom and you refused. You know there are  
numbers that are written outside for us to call whenever  
you have been raped so you can call them and they assist  
you.

Int: You will say that you have been raped?

Resp2: No, you will say that you are a commercial sex worker and  
that the condom busted, as you were doing sex with  
somebody.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Even if you go to Swoop, a hospital called swoop, but you  
will have to trick them and say you are a commercial sex  
worker, because that hospital is for commercial sex  
workers.

Int: How will you trick them?

Resp1: You will tell them that you are a commercial sex worker,  
but you slept with somebody and the condom busted.

Int: So you say condom cannot help? Then what can help young  
girls from pregnant?

Resp1: Family planning is vague and condom is vague we just leave it to God. (Laughter)

Int: So...

Resp1: Family planning has got side effect especially if you have not given birth, so you will be using them and you think of how you may not get a child in future. Condom is better because you will not be infected with disease instead of family because you will be pregnant and can be infected with diseases, you can fail to get pregnant but disease is a must.

Int: Ok

Resp1: And again condom does not burst all the time it can be by bad luck

Int: Ok

Resp1: We were taught that some men are good and it also depend on how you relate, in that he will not force you to do sex without protection if you don't want to get pregnant. We also taught that a girl is the one who should help the boy put on the condom and check on the expiry date.  
(Laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You help him put on?

Resp3: Yes. (Laughter)

Int: Ohh

Resp5: Condoms help to some extent because if take a condom that has not been used and you put oil inside it, it will leak. If you use it and you were ovulating and the other person sperms is also ready, when you will be doing work and it is leaking you know you will still get pregnant. So condom also is risky if you use for along time you can be infected with a disease, growth in the stomach, so we don't know which protection we will use? We don't know whether we just go for prayers?(Laughter)

Int: It causes which disease if you use it for long?

Resp8: It causes growth in the stomach, because of the oil inside it, so you are not supposed to use for a longer period of time. We are told that it is the best protection but we should not use it for long, and if you use pills for long is not also good, you can develop growth in your stomach.

Int: So you mean there is no good way to prevent early pregnancy?

Resp8: May be we can use calendar and count the days.

Int: What can the government do to assist?

Resp8: That is what we also want.

Int: What do you think the government can do?

Resp5: The government should help us, because we can't know, but the government can know. I can say that as we have been recorded while saying condom is bad and family planning is bad, they should listen to that and tell there senior that girls are saying condom can cause a disease when used fro long and family planning is not good either, so that they find a solution. Then you come and inform us or they can announce in Korogocho or all the slums for us to know the protections.

Int: What do you think should be done?

Resp4: We think we will just use calendar, because if we use medicine it is bad. (Laughter) It will give me growth. You know pill is small and it is a metal so when it enters your stomach, it knocks the egg and it stays there and because you take it daily, it will just knock the egg and it stays there, later you will feel a metal in your stomach and it causes growth in the stomach. Those pills also stay together in your stomach in one place, my cousin was operated and they just removed pills in her stomach, they are many in the stomach and they can't be digested.

Int: How can the church help?

Resp4: You know in church there are pastor, archbishop, reverend and bishop, so the pastor can go to bishop so that he finds a way of helping us.

Int: In your opinion how do you think a pastor can help?

Resp4: May be he can talk to his seniors so that they find a solution.

Int: Is there any other method that can help? Even in school or media like news?

Resp2: Media only announce use of condom and medicine, so please the way we given our opinion, they can go to their seniors and find a solution on how they can help us.

Int: Thank you, somebody with a question? We have finished?

Resp3: I have a question.

Int: Yes ask?

Resp3: We have met here and we have talked on behalf of how colleagues who are out and we have gained much, you as the leaders of your organization how will you help us? Your organization is called what?

Int: APHRC

Resp: So that we can be good girls, so that our colleagues who are out can emulate our behavior.

Int: So I can say that now that we have talked, and you know you can't know peoples problem without asking them, we will.

**090112 002 FGD GIRLS 15-16 years**

PROJECT	STEP UP
FGD	GIRLS
DATE	09-02-2013
VENUE	MAKWAK (CHIEF'S CAMP, KOROGOCHO)
MODERATOR	M1
NOTE TAKER	N1
TRANSCRIBER	T1

Int: I am also old that is why I am not saying my name. And to start with I would like you to tell me the challenges girls of your age living in Korogocho face. What kind of problems do you face here? Anyone can answer

Resp2: Raping

Int: Mhh, tell more about that

Resp2: As in 10-11 p.m. you cannot afford to be found near the toilets because boys here use drugs

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You may go out and have been sent to the market and you meet someone on a path where there are not many people and then someone just catches you and you don't know why and when you scream maybe he starts harassing you and then he rapes you.

Int: Mhh he just harasses you and then rapes you?

Resp2: he will harass you by beating you and then he rapes you

Int: Mhh you said the most boys use drugs

Resp2: Many

Int: Are they of your age?

Resp2: Yes many of them are young ad you will find that someone has not reached even 20 years

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And is into drugs

Int: Are they boys or girls?

Resp2: There are boys and girls but mostly they are boys

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: What type of drugs do they use?

Resp2: what type of drugs are these?

Int: There is bhang,

Resp2: Mhh

Int: Glue

Resp2: And another one I hear it is called Musi (Chuckles)

Int: Mhh ok fine is there any other problems that you face,  
she has mentioned rape?

Resp: Silence

Int: Or what you have witnessed other girls of your age  
experiencing and not necessarily you

Resp1: Early pregnancy

Int: Is it common here?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You find a young girl carrying a baby and she says the  
baby is hers

Int: Mhh

Resp3: abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You find that girls have abortions and then they throw  
the babies anywhere

Int: Mhh

Resp3: They don't care

Int: Mhh

Resp3: In fact there was a girl who threw her baby and she  
thought that no one had seen her

Int: Mhh



Resp3: It was during the day and on the road. Unfortunately some teens had seen her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: People started coming there looking at it and then another woman went up to her house, removed her from there and was told to remove it from there.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: I don't know where she went to throw it

Int: Mhh are there other problems girls of your age face?

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok

Resp7: You get harassed by your father

Int: Mhh how does the father harass your?

Resp7: There are some fathers who harass their daughters by caress them in provocative manner

Int: Mhh

Resp7: And threatened to be killed if they reveal them

Int: Are many girls experiencing that?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Ok fine, any other problem?

Resp6: For example there are many girls who have dropped out of school and gone to be married

Int: Mhh why?

Resp6: They get married and say that they are not loved by their parents and yet they don't want to go to school

Int: So they drop out of school because they want to?

Resp6: Yes

Int: Mhh ok is there any other problem?

Resp2: Yes, the other problem is that you find a girl was on the streets and she is a very young girl who is still under age. You find that she roams with boys and in the end she gets sick

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And when she realizes that she is sick

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She fears to say

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Then all she does is move from one boyfriend to another and by then she is infecting those boys with that diseases as she exchanges them

Int: Which disease is that?

Resp2: HIV AIDS

Int: Mhh

Resp2: By the way there is another girl, she is eighteen now and she doesn't want to accept that she is sick

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And she says she never also went to look for it she was just infected and so they will die many.

Int: Mhh, you told me she is how old?

Resp2: Right now she is about seventeen years or so

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: Fine are there other problems that girls your age experience apart from early pregnancy, diseases and so forth, are there other problems that girls of your age face or...?

Resp: Silence

Int: There are no more problems related to education you are facing?

Resp7: You can find a girl at school and she has no sanitary towels and that makes her not go to school

Int: Is there another problem?

Resp1: You also find some girls engaging in theft because of peer pressure

Int: Mhh how?

Resp1: They are forced by boys who put pressure on them and if you refuse, they beat you up

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And you cannot refuse

Int: Ok I would like us to talk about sexual relationships that girls of your age usually engage in this community. Girls in this community are engaged in what type of sexual relationships? Who do they relate with it sexually?

Resp: Silence

Int: Mhh

Resp1: I don't understand

Int: I was saying do girls here have love relationships?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Of your age?

Resp1: Yes

Int: In those relationships who do they relate with? Their lovers are which type of people?

Resp1: Boyfriends

Res2: Just boys

Resp: Others are overage

Int: That is what I want to know; they are boys or what age and what happens? What kind of relationships usually go on here?

Resp: Silence

Int: Mhh I would like to hear from you. You mentioned that they have boyfriends, tell me about it and please speak loudly

Resp3: It is just a question of having a boyfriend and you go out on dates

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You can find another one and after a short while, he drops you for another one and he doesn't tell you the reason. Maybe if you have a friend, he will drop and go for your friend

Int: Mhh and these boys are of what age group?

Resp1: About 20 years and below

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You also find adults also misusing small girls

Int: Adult people like how old?

Resp1: If you can hear of a man raping his own daughter, it means that is a mature person

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: Fine what other relationships are found here apart from those who go for boys of their age and those who are older than them? Are there other sexual relationships that girls of your age engage in?

Resp: Silence

Int: ok are there girls who do prostitution?

Resp2: Yes there are there

Int: Tell me about that

Resp7: A girl will put on uniform and you think that she is  
going to school

Int: Mhh

Resp7: And inside she has a home dress inside. When she reaches  
school she removes the uniform and hides the school bag  
and they go

Int: Mhh

Resp7: They get money from there and when the exams are due they  
are chased away from school

Int: Mhh

Resp7: When the teachers ask them where they have been they  
don't say and the parent will come and start asking why  
the child is not doing exams and yet she has not been  
coming to school.

Int: They are many?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Who do that?

Resp7: Yes

Int: That when a parent asks.....

Resp4: When the parent asks why the child is never given homework, or on Saturday she doesn't come with any homework,

Int: Mhh

Resp4: The teacher will say your child has not been in school for over a week and then the parents say that the teacher is in the wrong

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And if you investigate you will find that there is a place where they go.

Int: Mhh ok, fine and do we have those girls who engage in these sexual relationships so that their needs can be met?

Resp1: Mhh

Int: Like food?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Tell me more about it

Resp1: There could be in their home, you know all people are not the same,

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Maybe at home you are not able to maintain yourselves

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And maybe there is someone who has been longing to have a relationship with you so you end up accepting him because of the problems at home

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: Are there girls of your age who do that?

Resp1: Mhh?

Int: Girls of your age like 15-17 years...

Resp1: They are there

Int: And after these girls have been engaged in these relationships, like those ones with old men, boy of their age and these other boys, what problems do they face?

Resp3: Getting pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Diseases like STIs

Int: What else comes out of those relationships even like those who drop out of school and join prostitution what kind of problems do they get?

Resp7: They are chased away from school and they are told never to come back

Resp7: They cannot go to other schools

Int: Mhh



Resp7: When she goes to another school she will be asked the reason for leaving the other school

Int: Mhh

Resp7: Since she cannot defend herself, she is forced to drop out of school

Int: Mhh is there any other problems that are caused by those relationships apart from pregnancy, diseases and dropping out of school?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there others who are forced to terminate their pregnancies?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Mhh?

Resp: Silence

Int: And are there others who are forced to drop out of school because they have dropped out of school or because of that relationship that person decides to marry her early?

All: Mhh there are some who get married.

Int: Many girls get married when they are still young?

All: Yes

Int: Mhh, tell me more about it, don't just tell me ehh, please explain your answer

Resp3: I said that because I have a friend

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She used to get a lot of pressure from the father, he  
burnt her school books

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And the whole of that day he spent beating her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That girl ran away at night

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That night she ran away she was not seen the next day and  
after a while people started saying she has been seen on  
that side of Huruma

Int: Mhh

Resp3: After a short while we had that she had gone upcountry.  
Again from there she went to Kisumu and that is when it  
was discovered that she is married there. So the problem  
now remained with the father.

Int: Why was the father beating her?

Resp3: She was found when she had brought a man to her father's  
house. The father had not been there overnight and that  
is what caused all those problems

Int: Mhh fine, and I would like us to talk about early  
pregnancies and abortion and we will start with unwanted  
pregnancies. What do you know about early pregnancies in

this community? What do you think about young girls getting pregnant in this community?

Resp3: It is not good (unintelligible, low tone)

Int: Mhh it is not good and is it something that happens often?

Resp3: It is very common though you can abstain but since rape cases are many

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You can still get pregnant through rape also

Int: Mhh fine, anyone else to tell us something about early pregnancies? Is the rate high or it is just low?

Resp1: It is high

Int: it is high, who agrees with her that many girls get pregnant very early in life?

Resp: Silence

Int: Many girls get early pregnancies?

All: Yes

Int: You are not talking?

Resp: It is there (All laughs)

Int: You are supposed to talk like that, why do you say it is high?

Resp2: You really don't want to get pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp2: But you get it off guard

Int: Off guard?

Resp2: When you have not planned for it, you see,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: SO you find that you have a partner, isn't it?

Int: Mhh

Resp: And this is the person you are depending on for help you see?

Int: Mhh

Resp: This person will tell you to have sex with you and not many boys like using the condom

Int: Mhh

Resp: He will start telling you how you don't trust him, you don't love him, you see

Int: Mhh

Resp: That is where now where girls get pregnant because he will tell you to have sex with him so that he can provide what you want. You will be forced to do it.

Int: Ok and since you said there are man girls who get unwanted pregnancies do you think it is a problem or a normal thing?

Resp: It is a problem because there is no girl who would like to just go and get pregnant when she is still underage

Int: Mhh

Resp: Ye

Int: Personally do you know of girls who got early pregnancy or boys who put young girls in the family way, boys and girls or your age?

All: Yes

Int: Mhh ok and what issues makes these girls get early pregnancy, you just said that you depend on some for money

Resp1: Yes and maybe you are also in prostitution without any protection, you will definitely get pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp1: If your father is married to a second wife, step mother

Int: Mhh

Resp7: You will not have peace in that house and on many occasions you are chased away and have nowhere to sleep

Int: So how do you get pregnant when you are chased away?

Resp7: Maybe there is someone who has been longing for you; you end up at his place

Int: Mhh

Resp7: Yes

Int: What else makes girls get early pregnancy?

Resp: Silence

Int: Does peer pressure make girls get pregnant?

Resp1: Yes

Int: How?

Resp1: You have friends and they tell that they all have  
boyfriends, how come you don't have one?

Int: Mhh

Resp1: They tell you how you are just, knowing nothing

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Uncivilized,

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You don't have a boyfriend

Resp2: And when they jeer at you like that you feel let me also  
start looking for a boyfriend, your boyfriend

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And that way....

Int: Ok what else makes girls get early pregnant?

Resp5: Child abuse

Int: Child abuse?

Resp5: Yes

Int: How?

Resp5: There some parents who take their children to wealth men  
so that they get money

Int: Mhh

Res7: And when they get pregnant they are abandoned with the baby

Int: Do you of parents who have given out their daughter to a wealthy person?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Mhh, girls of your age?

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp7: There is a girl out (unintelligible)

Int: Please speak louder

Resp7: There is a girl in our neighborhood, the father chased her a way when she got pregnant because they wanted her to get married to a wealthy man

Int: Mhh

Resp7: Right now she has a baby

Int: Ok fine, is there any other reason young girls get early pregnancy?

Resp: Silence

Int: And do we have those who have been using family planning and it failed? Maybe your friend or you heard about someone...

Resp1: Of this age?

Int: Or even you, at this age?

Resp1: I have never seen one who is using family planning methods at this age

Int: Mhh

Resp3: I have seen one and she got pregnant,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: It was this 2012, this last year. She got pregnant in July and then she was taken for family planning

Int: Mhh

Resp3: It is like it never helped because she went back to system. Coming back to system, in September she got pregnant again

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And the mother started feeling disgusted with the people in the plot where she stays,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: How did she get pregnant and she was practicing family planning? She was pregnant in July and aborted it

Int: Mhh

Resp3: So she was put on family planning so that she doesn't get pregnant again but she got pregnant again in September

Int: Mhh



Resp3: So the mother started feeling grumpy with the neighbors  
and since the pregnancy was already noticeable she left  
it to be

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That is it

Int: Is there anyone else who has heard about someone using  
family planning and it failed and she got pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: You said that you have never heard of girls your age  
using family planning

Resp1: I have never heard or seen one that a girl of my age is  
using family planning methods, it is not allowed.

Int: Why is it not allowed?

Resp1: Some don't allow it

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Some don't agree because you are told that if you start  
using family you might never give birth all your life

Int: Mhh

Resp1: That is why they don't agree

Resp2: There are some who would rather get pregnant and  
terminate the pregnant but not use family planning  
methods

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Or use a condom and if she cannot do that, she would rather be getting pregnant and removing it

Int: Mhh

Int2: Who doesn't agree?

Resp5: The girls

Int: The girl herself?

Resp5: Yes, if she has never given birth

Resp6: Let us say she is between 15-16 years

Int: Mhh

Resp6: She cannot agree to use family planning methods

Int: Mhh

Resp6: The ones I know reason like that

Resp7: They say that if they use it

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They will never give birth

Int: Not even in these shops there are no girls who go to buy them?

Resp1: No

Int: And the chemist?

Resp1: No, an adult will be allowed to buy but a young person cannot be allowed

Int: Mhh that is fine, and these boys who have put the girls in the family way, how do they feel about it?

Resp2: They don't feel anything

Resp1: They don't feel anything that is your problem

Int: Mhh

Resp1: He will make you pregnant, dump you and do the same to another girl and move on

Int: Mhh

Resp2: He will tell you that he is not ready to be called a father

Int: Mhh

Resp2: When he says he is not ready you will just have to terminate it and if you cannot manage that it is up to you

Int: Are there boys who get excited about the pregnancy, they feel they are now real men?

Resp1: Some feel really good but he cannot help you at all.

Resp2: You will hear him boasting he has a child somewhere, he will accept and boast about it but there is no way he will help you.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: He may just be also there or a school going boy

Int: Mhh

Resp1: If he is still depending on his parents he cannot help you at all.

Int: Ok and do they usually get embarrassed, like when you know so and so impregnated a girl, does the boy get embarrassed?

Resp2: Yes you may pass when they are seated at their base

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And the rest tell him; father so and so, there is your baby passing (others laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And because of temper he gets annoyed

Int: Anyone else, do boys get embarrassed when they make a girl pregnant?

Resp1: Yes

Int: In what way?

Resp1: They don't like being called fathers

Int: Mhh they don't like being called fathers for what reason?

Resp2: There are times because they are still young they don't want to be called fathers

Int: And when you hear people backbiting those boys who made these young girls pregnant or when they are just talking about them what do they usually say about them?

Resp: Silence

Int: People talk about those boys who have made girls pregnant or they know so and so made a certain girl pregnant, what do they usually say about them?

Resp2: They used to take them to the chief, but these days, he will just be taken there and be released again.

Int: What about the back biting even if they don't take them forward, what do they usually say about them?

Resp2: If you get, let's say girls are talking they will just say so and so loves getting involved with girls and if he ever gets to you don't allow it because he will abandon you when you are pregnant

Int: Mhh what else is said about those boys who put young girls in the family way? From what you hear when people are talking, what do they say about those boys?

Resp1: What these boys say?

Int: Not the boys, these other people in the society, it could be women, men, boys and girls?

Resp1: These days they don't talk about them, they are used to them now

Int: They are used in what way?

Resp1: Those are things that keep happening every now and then

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Because you find girl of 14, 15 has given birth and so they stopped being shocked and it has become normal to them now.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Even doing an abortion is normal these days

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You will just hear so and so was pregnant, mhh, did she give birth? No, she aborted, ok and that is the end of the story

Resp: The story ends like that

Int: Mhh and there are some girls who would want to get pregnant early and the boy doesn't want, are there some who do that?

Resp1: There are some

Int: Why?

Resp2: You feel tired with life and feel getting married is the only solution, it is the only option you have

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The girl thinks if she gets his baby he might agree to marry her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Maybe she loves the boy too much and feels if she gets pregnant the boy will readily take her because of the baby

Int: Is there any other reason that would make a girl wants to get pregnant early and the boyfriend is not ready for that? Are there other reasons?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there other reasons that lead to girls wanting to get early pregnancy?

Resp3: No

Int: Ok I want us to talk about how girls manage to cope when they get those early pregnancies. When these young girls get pregnant what do they usually do; what do they do with that pregnancy?

Resp5: They just keep it the pregnancy though you will still see her still roaming with that pregnancy

Int: Roaming how?

Resp5: She spends her time with other men

Int: Why does she go to other men?

Resp5: To add ears (all laugh)

Int: Add ears in what way?

Resp5: Maybe, you know when a girl is pregnant; it is not easy for her to feel settled

Int: Mhh and adding ears means what?

Resp5: Maybe she is pregnant and she has another boyfriend  
beside the one who made her pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She will be forced to be going to his place looking for  
help

Int: Help her in what way (Door opening and closing, generally  
noise in the background)

Resp6: This girl is already pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And the person responsible has denied it

Int: Mhh

Resp6: She will go for another boyfriend who will want sex  
before helping her.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: He cannot help her without that.

Int: And do all the girls who get pregnant give birth?

Resp4: No

Int: There are those who terminate the pregnancy?

Resp7: Yes

Int: And are there girls who commit suicide because they got  
pregnant early? She is young, she is 15 and she is  
pregnant....



Resp7: I haven't heard of such

Resp1: Not these days

Int: Mhh

Resp1: I have not heard of such thing of recent about committing  
suicide instead she would rather abort

Resp2: Instead of committing suicide she would rather abort

Int: And you have just said not these days but before, let's  
say before as in how long ago?

Resp4: About 1992 or thereabouts

Resp5: Many years have past

Int: Many years?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Are there others who get married because they are  
pregnant?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Mhh ok and there are girls who give birth and decide to  
give out the babies?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Tell me about it; where do they take them?

Resp1: They sell them

Int: Mhh

Resp1: I have seen a girl who has sold four children, she gives birth and then she sells the baby to the people she knows.

Int: How old is she?

Resp1: She is not that young really

Int: Mhh where does she sell them?

Resp1: She will just go to a hospital and negotiate with the doctor

Resp1: It is a business venture

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The doctors are involved

Int: And how much does she sell the babies?

Resp2: I don't know, she never comes back with a baby from the hospital

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She leaves them there

Int: You said the doctor does what?

Resp2: The doctor is the one who knows where the babies are taken,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She will tell the doctor who will organize for that

Int: And are there others who throw the babies away?

Resp: There are there those who do that. In fact there is one  
at my place currently

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The mother threw the child away after taking care of it  
for seven years

Int: Where did she throw the child?

Resp2: A seven year old child

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She used to live here before and she had two children

Int: Mhh

Resp2: They left for upcountry where the younger child died and  
so she remained with the bigger one. She said she was  
going to her place to see her parents and left the older  
child behind

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She went and when she delayed coming back the husband  
called asked for her and he was told that all they know  
is that she left for Nairobi with her husband sometime  
back.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So the man was told to come and take his child which in  
reality was not his. The man went and picked the child  
and came with child and left it where they used to live

before with the girl. When the mother is called she usually tells us to sell the child

Int: Mhh

Resp2: To the rich

Int2: This child is living with whom?

Resp2: A neighbor where she used to live before she moved out.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: He left the child there and when asked he says his child died and he married the girl with this baby. He buries his.

Int2: And these girls who leave the babies in hospital how do you know if they have left or sold the baby?

Resp2: This girl sells them and she doesn't hide the fact. In fact when she is pregnant she usually says that.

Int: Do girls of your age do that because you have just told me that this other girl is older? Are there girls of your age who sell or throw the baby away?

Resp2: Some even throw the baby over the bridge

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes, you can even get a live baby who has been left there and it dies there

Int: Fine and how do boys cope with these pregnancies now that the girlfriend has told him that she is carrying his baby?

Resp1: He will just tell her he was not alone

Int: Mhh

Resp: Silence

Int: What do the boys do when the girlfriends come and tell them that they are pregnant with their baby? With the girls we said that some abort, other give birth while others sel. So what do the boys do?

Resp1: He denies the pregnancy

Int: He denies her?

Resp1: Yes

Int: He denies, do all the boys refuse to take responsibility?

Resp1: There are those who will accept the pregnancy is his, but he cannot help you

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Maybe he is just sixteen like you

Int: Mhh

Resp2: He cannot marry you, he is still in school

Int: Mhh

Resp2: He is also depending on the parent and so when he accepts he will not be of any use to you

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: Ok are there others who agree that they will marry you when they discover you are carrying their baby?

Resp3: If is he able

Resp4: If he is able but very few of them do that.

Int: Very few?

Resp4: Very, very few

Int: And are there boys who will tell the girl to go and abort?

All: Yes

Resp: Many

Int: Mhh tell me I can see everyone is agreeable to that, mhh boys tell the girl to go and abort when she comes to tell him that she is pregnant?

Resp2: For example when you tell him that you are pregnant he will accept and if he has no ability to support you, he will tell you to abort

Resp3: Another one will tell you that is up to you

Int: It is up to me and then he does what, he abandons me?

Resp7: Either you sort yourself out or abort

Resp1: There is a guy here in Koch when you get pregnant by him he will give you money either you abort or make use of it

in whatever way you want but he doesn't want to see you again in his life or his house ever

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So you go and sort yourself out. There was another girl he did that to her and she refused the money and disappeared, we have never known whether she gave birth or what happened to her.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: We don't know

Int: Mhh and are there boys who tell the girl to give birth and then the baby can be given to someone or a Home to take care of or throw it away?

Resp4: Obviously if it is someone overage and has made a sixteen year girl pregnant he might not want you to abort but will tell you to give birth and he will take the responsibility of taking care of the baby

Int: Mhh is there any other way boys cope with these early pregnancies?

Resp4: Another one will want you to give birth and not abort but he is not ready to take responsibility

Int: Mhh

Resp6: He just want have the title of a father (others laugh)

Rep: He will tell you that if you terminate that pregnancy you should know where you will go to hide so that he doesn't see you again

Resp6: You can also tell him that you are pregnant and you end up getting a beating

Int: Mhh beat you why?

Resp6: The answer he will give you when you tell him about the pregnancy is a beating

Rep3: True others will tell you to go and terminate it is you don't want he will do it for you, and doing it is beating you up. And he will beat you until you miscarry.

Int: OK

Resp: Yes

Int: Is there any other way?

Resp: No

Int: And those girls of your age who get pregnant and decide to give birth and take care of the baby, what kind of challenges do they get?

Resp4: You find that someone has no parents

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She stays with a sister

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The sister is a drunkard



Int: Mhh

Resp5: And there is no one to look for food for them so she  
remains looking for the food herself

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And that is how they start prostitution

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She has to leave the baby there because she has to look  
for something for them to eat

Int: She leaves the baby with whom?

Resp3: She leaves the baby there alone

Resp7: Others look for baby care places

Int: Mhh

Resp7: There are some which are good and others are not good,  
there are some for Sh20 and Sh50, you see?

Int: Mhh

Resp7: Like this one of Sh20 you will get the baby the way you  
took it there

Int: Mhh

Resp:7 But because you don't care what happens since you have to  
look for something for both of you, you just console  
yourself that at least you left the baby in the hands of  
somebody. You just leave the baby and go your way, most

of them, don't look after the babies, in stead they just roam about

Resp6: There are others who lock the babies in the house, you find the baby is covered in stool, the mucus and all that and the baby cried until it got tired

Int: Mhh you also said there are baby cares here, are they many?

Resp6: It is just someone who has volunteered maybe she has nothing to do or which she is doing and so she decides to do that. But there isn't much she does

Int: Mhh

Resp6: She takes a room like this and puts the children there.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: This baby will stay like that whether he goes for along call or whatever they way you left him yesterday is how you will get him today morning. Her work is to look after the they baby not extras

Int: Mhh What are the other problems girls brining up their babies face? Are there others who drop out of school because of that?

Resp4: How do you go back to school when the baby needs to eat?

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Another one will tell you that by going to school she will not be paid

Int: Are there others who get problems going back to school?

Resp1: There are those whose parents are willing to take care of the baby as you go back to school.

Int: Mhh

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok and are there others who are cases away from home just because they have given birth?

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh explain to me how

Resp6: You will hear them being told that since they got pregnant and have given birth, that means you are now an adult so you can go and fend for yourself

Int: Ok that is fine. How do they cope with these problems you have just mentioned that they get? For example one has been chased away from home and is being told to sort herself out, how does she cope with that?

Resp6: You will find others starts washing for people clothes so that she is actually sorting herself as she was told

Int: Mhh what do the others do, she had mentioned that there are others who engage in prostitution

Resp5: Yes

Int: What other methods do these girls use to cope with these problems they are experiencing when they are bringing up their children? How are they able to solve these problems? This side is quiet, mhh

Resp: Silence

Int: What do girls do to solve their problems with the babies they are bringing up especially when they don't have any money or otherwise? What do they do to get money to bring up their babies with?

Resp: Silence

Int: And what do boys who are bringing up a baby face? This boy accepted the pregnant and took in the girl and the baby, how is he able to cope with this situation?

Resp: Silence

Int: What kinds of problems do the get? Have you understood the question?

Resp: Silence

Int: Who has not understood, can I repeat the question?

Resp1: Please do

Int: We have talked about the girls who are brining up babies and the kinds of problems they are getting. Here now, we have a boy who made a young girl pregnant and the girl

has given birth and the boy has decided to take care of the baby what kind of problems do such boys experience?

Resp1: You will find that one has joined theft so as to be able to feed the child

Int: Mhh is there any other young boys get when they decide to bring up their babies?

Resp: Silence

Int: Is there anything else they do apart from stealing or if I may ask are all the boys who are brining up babies thieves?

Resp2: There are those who do hard tasks so that they can earn some income

Int: Which type of work is it that is hard?

Resp2: You will find that when he goes to that job there is no one there of his age

Int: Mhh

Resp2: But because he needs the money, he will have to try his level best up to what his ability can reach

Int: Mhh is there any other method boys use to look for income for their young families?

Resp2: Others start selling drugs like bhang

Int: Mhh where do they sell them?

Resp3: His work could be to supply them because of age

Int: Is there any question or issues that I have not touched when it comes to unintended pregnancies? Something you feel we should have talked about it and I didn't mention. If there is none then I would like us to talk about abortion. Abortion in this community is at what rate?

Resp2: It is high

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Many people here like doing abortions it is not easy to get a girl who will just get pregnant and decide to keep the pregnancy. Many people here believe in abortion

Int: Do all agree that abortion rate is high or there is someone with a different view? Are abortion cases high?

Resp2: Yes, it has become a normal thing here

Int: Are we all agreeing that abortion cases are high?

Resp: Silence

Int: If it is not common again you will also tell us your reasons

Resp2: The boy has rejected the pregnancy and you don't have anywhere to go and maybe he is also a student so there is no way you can be able to bring up this baby

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You decide to abort it and sometimes he is the one who has given you the money to go and have the abortion

Int: mhh so many girls do abort?

Resp2: Yes

Resp3: Both young and old

Int: Young and old?

Resp4: It is common

Int: And in your opinion do you think it is a problem or not?

Resp4: It is a problem

Resp5: I would like to say that if a parent can listen to the child, you see there are parents will sit down with you and tell you to take care so that you don't get pregnant or diseases but they never tell you how that comes about

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They will tell you that and that is the end of everything but if they took their time and explained to the child how this pregnancy or diseases comes about, what the outcome is when he gets these things,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: At least the girl will be aware of what is going on but not what you are just told and when you happen to get pregnant you know you cannot go with it at home.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You just know that when I go at home with it, I will be chased away and so you hide a friend's place and go back home after the abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If she comes at home with it that is another issue altogether

Int: Supposing she does that and dies?

Resp2: That is how some people die

Resp2: There are some who do that and if you see that she is going to die you run away and leave her there

Int: Do you know of girls of your age who have had an abortion or abortions?

Resp2: Yes

Int: And why do girls chose to abort apart from being rejected?

Resp1: Maybe she still wants to have fun and the baby will mess her up

Int: How will the baby mess her up?

Resp1: She may not have the time to go and have fun

Resp2: And there are some boys these days, when the see that you have given birth you happen to meet on the road they start making fun of you and telling you how you are valueless. Boys can be bad



Int: So that is what makes you abort?

Resp: Yes

Int: You don't want to be seen with a baby and be told that you are old and valueless or just abused in any other degrading form

Resp2: Isn't abortion and giving birth one and the same thing?

Resp3: With abortion you will not be seen carrying a baby but giving birth means you have to carry a baby with you

Int: Mhh it is embarrassing?

Resp3: Very much

Int: Ok what else makes girls here do an abortion?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there girls who do abortions because they had been raped?

Resp3: You cannot agree to bring up a baby whose father you don't know

Int: So many girls who have been raped usually do an abortion

Resp3: Most of them do really abort and she will tell you that she cannot take care of a baby she doesn't know the father.

Resp2: Even if she brings up that baby will still be remembering the pain she underwent when she conceived, you see?

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So she would rather not give birth to a baby and then mistreat it. I cannot give birth to such a child otherwise and then mistreat it because every time I look at the baby I will remember the incident

Int: Mhh

Resp2: That is why most of them opt for abortion

Int: And do those girls, who abort....do they do that so that they can go back to school to learn?

Resp2: Yes, there are some

Int: Mhh ok what perceptions do people in Koch have about abortion? What do they think about it?

Resp: Silence

Int: When you hear what people say about abortion, do you think it is something they support or not support?

Resp3: There are some people who support it while others don't because there are some parents who make their daughters go for abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Yes

Int: So those parents who support....

Resp: Some of them are the ones who do it for their daughters. Your parent will give you that money to go and have the abortion or she will take you to have an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Maybe she doesn't want your father to know she will have to take you there herself make sure that it is out.

Int: Mhh so you said that there are those who support abortion and others don't

Resp3: Mhh

Int: Who are these people who don't support abortion?

Resp2: The girls themselves because you find that she is being told to have an abortion and she refuses.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She will refuse and she can even run away from home.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I have seen it happen a mother wanted her daughter to do an abortion and she refused and ran away instead

Int: And when she runs away like that what would be her thoughts about abortion?

Resp2: She said she was scared that she would die. Had her mother aborted her she would no be alive today

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: People in this community think abortion is a good thing or a bad one?

Resp: Silence

Int: People here are happy with the way abortion is being handled here in Korogocho, what is it that people think about abortion here in Korogocho, (whispering in the background). Ok what methods do girls use to do abortion? Which methods do they use to terminate the pregnancies? You don't have to tell me their names, we are just learning about them.

Resp1: Going to hospital

Int: Which hospital do they go to?

Resp1: I don't know of any

Int: Tell us your experience; you have a friend you know who did an abortion

Resp: They don't tell anyone those kinds of stories

Int: Mhh, but what did she tell you, her experience?

Resp1: What can she tell you and yet when you saw her last she was pregnant and now she is not? You cannot ask such a question

Int: And those who talk about abortion they say that you can go and your abortion from where and how is it done?

Resp7: I hear that you cook strong tea with a lot of tea leaves and then you drink

Int: Mhh ok what do the others do?

Resp2: There are others who say that they have gone to hospital and had pipes fixed or something of the sort and she comes back with them at home

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Something like, when the pipe is full that means the pregnancy has ruptured

Int: Where do they fix the pipe? (All laugh)

Resp2: I don't know

Int: Which hospitals do they go to?

Resp2: They cannot tell you maybe it can be even these chemists but they will not tell you where they go. I think if you want to do an abortion she will take you

Int: What do you go to do at the chemist?

Resp1: You go and maybe buy medicine to abort

Int: Mhh have you heard which type of medicine it is and the dosage?

Resp1: I don't know but I just hear there are medicines

Int: Mhh ok are there other methods people use to abort even in the house apart from strong tea? What have you heard that girls do so that the pregnancy it should not be necessary that one you have done? [Name] what have you heard that girls usually do when they want to abort?

Resp2: I just heard about the strong tea

Int: What did you hear they do, don't cover your face, we are all girls here. What do they do?

Resp5: I hear that they get injections

Int: Injections for what?

Resp5: You inject yourself

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Others take Muratina and then you abort

Int: What quantity do they take?

Resp5: The big bottle

Int: Like this soda I am taking?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Ok, if I take muratina like this, I will terminate my pregnancy?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Ok and those who use injections, which type of injections, are those?

Resp5: I don't know

Int: And you said they inject themselves?

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok what else have you heard that girls take?

Resp4: They take soap

Int: Mhh what type of soap?

Resp4: Omo (powder detergent for washing)

Int: Omo? Tell us what they do with Omo

Resp4: I don't know I just heard that they take Omo

Int: I thought Omo is in form of powder?

Resp4: Yes

Int: So you just go and start licking like glucose or what happens?

Resp4: You mix with water and drink

Int: Ohh what amount of water?

Resp4: Little

Int: Omo alone in particular and not Toss? (Laughter) or Ariel?

Resp4: No

Int: Ok and what have you heard?

Resp3: Pills though I don't know where they insert them or if they swallow them and the pregnancy ruptures

Int: Ohh which pills are these?

Resp3: I don't know them but they are very small indeed

Resp2: They also say that even family planning pills also can terminate a pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp2: That you swallow all those pills in the packet and the pregnancy will come out

Int: At once, all of them?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Anything else you have heard, what do girls do when they

Resp6: You make strong tea and put a lot of tea leaves

Int: Do you take hot or cold tea?

Resp6: Warm

Int: So the moment you just take it and your pregnancy will  
come out?

Resp6: I don't know.

Int: So you don't know how someone looks like after they have  
taken those tea leaves?

Resp6: No

Int: We have mentioned tea leaves; pills, muratina, and so  
forth are there other people inside the community who is  
not a doctor that assists the girls to carry out the  
abortion?

Resp2: The TBAs

Int: What do the TBAs do?

Resp2: They are given traditional herbs I am not sure whether it  
is Muarubaini or what I don't know, people drink that

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I hear there are others which look like grass also

Int: Mhh

Resp2: They mix them and then drink



Int: Mhh

Resp2: Such like things but the TBAs also provide that kind of services

Int: And all of them are instant the moment you drink it, it acts immediately

Resp2: When someone goes to the TBA she will sit stay there until the whole process is over or she might be told go home

Int: Is there anything else that we have not been told?

All: No we have said everything

Int: Ok fine and when a girl wants to terminate a pregnancy what problems does she encounter before she is able to terminate the pregnancy? That process of deciding....

Resp1: Maybe she doesn't have the money

Int: Ok, what else apart from not having money to go and do the abortion?

Resp: Silence

Int: Does she ever have those worries as to whether that method will be safe?

Resp1: Yes

Int: What else do they experience when they are thinking of going to terminate that pregnancy apart from money and

safety? Do they want people to know that they are going to have an abortion?

Resp1: They don't want people to know

Int: Tell me about it why?

Resp1: They don't like because once she does it you will notice that she is no longer pregnant and you will not talk about it even if you ask her she will not answer you. (Crosstalk) even the eye she will give you, you will not make that mistake.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: If you look at her keenly she will ask you if you are looking for a dress you lost.

Int: Mhh (all laugh) ok and do people embarrass these girls who have just done an abortion?

Resp1: The get embarrassed

Resp2: Yes, particularly by the very boys but they are not used to being called killers.

Int: Mhh when you pass by they call you those names?

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok fine and after a girl has had an abortion what are the side effects? What are the problems she experiences after the abortion?

Resp1: Bleeding

Int: Bleeding?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Is there any other problem a girl gets after an abortion?

Resp2: You find that maybe the procedure she was using was not good and she has to cleaned the uterus again

Int: Mhh, is there any other problem girls get after abortion?

Resp: Silence

Int: Have you heard of any girls dying because or an abortion?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Mhh and are there girls who aborted and their parents stopped supporting them because the parents don't support abortion?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Tell me about it

Resp1: Maybe you did when your parents don't want you to do it

Int: Mhh

Resp1: The parent now gets tired of you and just looks at you

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: How does your parent get tired of you?

Resp2: You are just there and they never talk to you. Instead of telling you they look at you and just keep quiet.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: And do we have girls who loose support from their  
boyfriends or friends because they have had an abortion?

Resp2: Yes, there are some

Int: Why, should a boyfriend leave you because you aborted a  
baby or your friends?

Resp2: Maybe he didn't want you to terminate the pregnancy

Int: Mhh and your friends, they also leave you because you had  
an abortion?

Resp2: They never leave you

Resp1: They don't leave you but remember when you go away and  
leave them behind, you, are the topic for their  
discussion

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: And what, do they usually say (all laugh)

Resp1: They say you did an abortion; you are a killer and such  
like things

Int: Are there girls who are chased away from home because  
their parents know that she aborted?

Resp1: It is not easy to hear such a thing that someone has been  
chased away from home because of abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp1: But it is easier to hear that someone was chased away  
because she is pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: Ok, when you abort it no problem but if you keep the  
pregnancy that is a problem. Ok

Resp2: Not everyone who gets pregnant has the same opinion as  
the other person

Int: Mhh

Resp2: There are those parents who will support you to go and  
have an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Not everyone thinks on the same lines as the other

Int: Ok fine and those who don't support abortion they do that  
for one reason?

Resp3: Because it is evil, it is not something that is good

Int: Ok, fine and when a girl wants to have an abortion, who  
does she first talk to?

Resp3: Maybe a friend who has gone through abortion before

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You cannot just go to anyone and start telling her that  
you want to secure an abortion even if it is your closes  
friend

Int: Mhh

Resp3: There are some you cannot tell

Int: Mhh, why?

Resp5: You know there can be a person you are free to talk to  
and maybe she has done something like that

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And so the girl will feel if I talk to someone like this  
I will be helped.

Int: Mhh who else do girls tell when they want to secure an  
abortion?

Resp6: The person responsible for the pregnancy

Int: The person responsible for the pregnancy?

Resp6: Yes

Int: Who else and why tell the person who made you pregnant?

Resp7: He is the one who impregnated you (all chuckle)

Int: Is there any other reason?

Resp: You have to tell him that you are pregnant so that you  
can hear his views first

Int: Mhh

Resp: Let him tell you by himself

Int: There are no girls who go and tell the boys that they  
want to secure an abortion?

Resp7: You cannot go direct

Resp6: You cannot go directly like that you must tell him

Resp5: He might think that you have had other abortions before  
and that is why you want to terminate this one

Int: Oh is there anyone else girls talk to when they want to  
secure an abortion, maybe parents, school or church?

Resp5: Maybe at school if there is a teacher you are familiar  
with?

Int: Mhh, who else?

Resp3: Are there girls who talk to their parents?

Int: If you are free with her you can tell her that you are  
pregnant but you cannot tell her that you want to  
terminate it

Resp3: Mhh

Int: You just wait until you hear from her

Resp3: Mhh

Int: Yes, [name] who else can you tell when you want to abort  
assuming that you have found yourself in such a  
situation?

Resp3: You know, you cannot just face her and tell her that you  
want to secure an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You see, you just tell her that you are pregnant and there are some girls who very free with their mothers. She can freely tell her that she is pregnant.

Int: {Name} who can you tell that you are pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: Supposing you unfortunately find yourself in that situation who would you tell and in your mind the only things that comes to mind is abortion, whom will you tell?

Resp: Silence

Int: [Name] who will you tell or you will decide and commit suicide? (All laugh) and this is something that can happen. Who would you tell?

Resp1: In our religion it is not good

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And so when you tell your mother or she happens to know, you are a sinner to her and she can also refuse to acknowledge you. The best thing you can do is tell her that you are pregnant, drop out of school and take care of the pregnancy

Int: Mhh so Muslims don't terminate pregnancies?

Resp1: No

Int: Really? They don't completely terminate pregnancies?



Resp1: No, I have never heard of one

Int: If I looked for one I cannot get?

Resp1: There are some who do abort

Int: Mhh and those who...that means...

Resp2: In their religion it is not good but there are those who do it.

Resp2: Religiously it is not good

Resp1: It is not even a question of religion, even for us Christians; it is not a good thing

Int: Ok, mhh is there anyone else who has contributed, who else can you tell because all us here can get pregnant, now are a victim already, who will you tell so that it is just a secret between two of you?

Resp: Silence

Int: Supposing you have just discovered that you are pregnant who will you tell?

Resp: Silence

Int: Mhh? There are those who will throw themselves in the river, what will someone else do? There are those who will throw themselves in the river, what will someone else do? Who, will you tell?

Resp2: I will tell my best friend

Int: Mhh is there anyone else you can tell?

Resp3: My mother

Int: Mother, why tell the two?

Resp3: If I trust them

Int: Ohh...and your father?

Resp: (Unintelligible)

Int: (All laugh) how come people are able to tell their mother  
and not father? (Crosstalk)

Resp:1 The first thing a father does is to warn you that if you  
ever come to his house pregnant he will cut you into  
pieces. To go and tell him that you are pregnant?

Resp2: You would rather he sees it when it is already big  
whereby he will think twice before he cuts you to pieces.

Int: Mhh ok, and when you tell your mother that you want to  
abort...

Resp2: You can never do that

Resp2: You cannot tell her

Int: You cannot tell her

Resp1: You just tell her that you are pregnant and if she  
refuses then you can take advantage of the situation

Int: You may wish to tell her that you want to abort but you  
cannot just have the courage to do it?

Resp1: You cannot directly tell her that you want to abort so you inform her that you are pregnant and wait for her reaction

Int: Mhh so that when she says you can terminate it then you can relax?

All: Yes (all laugh)

Int: Ok is there anything I have not asked you about abortion that you think I should know? Is there anything about abortion that we have not talked about?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok can you talk to the church, you want to secure an abortion is there anyone you can talk to?

Resp1: You cannot take such issues to the church that you want to secure an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp1: How can one go to say at church really?

Int: Why not?

Resp1: The Ten Commandments say you should not kill so how will you go to church and say you want to abort?

Int: Mhh ok is there any other reason as to why you cannot tell the church or maybe your neighbor is a pastor or Women's leader

Resp2: She will advise you not to do it

Resp3: If you tell someone like that it is obvious she will tell you no.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That is not an issue that you would think of telling anyone just like that because the moment you mention about abortion you will be told no.

Resp4: Those kind of stories are not usually discussed in the open

Int: Maybe you have never aborted before and you want to abort so if you don't talk to anyone how will you know where to go?

Resp2: You look for someone who has done that or you ask a friend who you know has done that before

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: You have just said that they don't say so how will you know who has done that?

Resp7: If someone was pregnant and she has no child you will know that she did an abortion, otherwise where did the child go?

Int: Mhh

Resp7: You know they don't say but she could have been your neighbor or friend, and you used to see her. Today she is no pregnant and she never gave birth to a baby

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Obvious she has aborted and when you are pregnant and you go to talk to her such kind of stories she will tell you ad even show where to do that.

Resp7: But is this person is not someone who you are not familiar with, she will be very harsh towards you and feel that you are laughing at her or you are happy that she went through that experience

Int: Mhh ok and are there counselors one can go and talk to about your problem? Are there counselors based in this community?

Resp6: No

Int: And at school?

Resp6: No

Int: Ok in your opinion, how can we prevent these early pregnancies. You mentioned that girls of about 13 years get pregnant and so how can we prevent such incidences from happening, incidences of early pregnancy

Resp7: People should abstain

Int: People to abstain?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp: Silence

Int: What else can be done?

Resp6: You tell people to abstain

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And if they cannot they should use protection

Int: Mhh you can use protection what kind of protection?

Resp: Silence

Int: There are many methods of family planning or what kind of protection do you mean?

Resp: Silence

Int: Please don't get afraid just tell us what you think.  
Usually what kind of protection are you aware of?

Resp: Silence

Int: Everyone needs to talk all of are girls and we are talking about girls of you age. What is protection and if they are many which types do you have in mind? (Noisy background man and woman arguing)

Resp: Silence

Int: Let us start from here as the others think, what can we do to prevent girls from early pregnancies?

Resp3: Abstain

Int: Abstain mhh next

Resp4: Abstain

Int: Next

Resp2: You just tell her to abstain

Int: Mhh, who should abstain, the girls or the boys

Resp2: The girls

Int: And who should tell them to abstain?

Resp4: School

Int: Who else can tell you that?

Resp6: Your parent

Int: A parent can tell you to abstain; what else can one do?

Resp1: They should just abstain

Int: And you are really smiling what about those who cannot abstain? Can everyone abstain? (Crosstalk)

Resp1: Anyone who cannot abstain can use the condom

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Because if you say that they use these other family planning methods they will end up with STIs

Int: So in your opinion girls should not be told to use family planning methods to prevent pregnancy?

Resp2: They can use and prevent pregnancy but will they prevent diseases?

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You will not

Int: Mhh what else can be done so that girls or your younger sisters don't get early pregnancy?

Resp7: I would look for a way whereby rapists are given heavy penalties by the government so that they don't continue with that

Int: Mhh another solution?

Resp4: The parents should sit down with their children and tell them reality and not hide

Int: Mhh

Resp4: People should be told the truth

Int: Mhh another one? Do you have a younger sister?

Resp4: Yes

Int: And if you don't want your sister to get early pregnancy so that she doesn't drop out of school or before she becomes mature, what else can be done apart from abstaining?

Resp: Silence

Int: And how, can the media be used to help prevent young girls getting unintended pregnancy? For example KOCH Fm how can they be used to prevent early pregnancies in young girls?

Resp6: Bring them education



Int: Education on what?

Resp62: On pregnant and particular unwanted pregnancy

Int: Mhh, mhh is there any other method? You had mentioned  
[Name] you can also do that at school?

Resp: Yes

Int: And how can the church help?

Resp2: The Bible tells us that we should not engage in sex  
before marriage

Int: Mhh

Resp2: That can help also

Int: Mhh?

Resp: silence

Int: What else can the government do to help or what would you  
like the government to do to help prevent early  
pregnancies in girls?

Resp1: Have a seminar for them because when you are busy will  
not be able to do some of those things

Int: Mhh seminars for whom?

Resp: The girls need to go for seminars because some of them do  
things because they don't know that they are wrong.

Int: Mhh

Resp1: For example a girl aged 14-14 years maybe she doesn't  
know or you get a girl who has just come from upcountry

into the city and those behaviors are there and she will just meet a boy who will cheat her. But if we had seminars she would be knowledgeable and not be convinced otherwise

Int: So these seminars should for what age group of girls?

Resp1: Below 18 years is good enough

Int: Mhh and how often can these seminars be help?

Resp1: Maybe once a week like on Saturdays

Int: Is there any other way the government can help or any other method anyone can think of that can help prevent these early pregnancies? What about family planning though you have already mentioned that it can help though it will not prevent the diseases? Is that one of the methods that can be used?

Resp: Yes

Int: Is everyone here at school?

Resp: Yes

Int: All of us?

Resp6: No

Int: Why are you not in school?

Resp6: I am at home

Int: Why?

Resp6: Nothing

Int: We are not here to judge anyone, what happened?

Resp6: I have a baby

Int: You got a baby when you were how old?

Resp6: 14 years

Int: You got a baby at 14 years?

Resp6: Yes

Int: What happened; you can tell us so that the others don't get themselves there

Resp6: It was a question of trusting someone before pregnancy he convinced me that he loved me and when he asked for sex, I was like we need protection and he argued that I don't love him. So in the process of loving him too much I had sex without protection

Int: Ok, which class?

Resp6: Class six

Int: Ok so after getting pregnant?

Resp6: I gave birth

Int: Ok and where is he?

Resp6: At home

Int: No I mean the father of the baby

Resp6: He was murdered

Int: After delivery?

Resp6: No before when I was six months pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Yes

Int: And were you living with him

Resp6: No, our home

Int: He had accepted responsibility?

Resp6: Yes, I told him that I was pregnant and he told me that he will continue helping me while I am at my parent's home since he didn't have a job

Int: Mhh ok how did your parents react to that when they discovered that you are pregnant?

Resp6: Of course they were not amused and took me to the chief and as expected I got a beating

Int: Then?

Resp6: They accepted the situation the way it is

Int: Mhh you mean when you get pregnant you are taken to the chief?

Resp6: For discipline

Int: Ohh but already you are pregnant

Resp6: Mhh

Int: After discipline they accepted you stay?

Resp6: I was taken upcountry where I stayed till I gave birth and then came back after delivery.

Int: Mhh ok so right now you are living with whom?

Resp6: I live with my mother

Int: Mhh is your father alive?

Resp6: They divorced

Int: They divorced after you had given birth or before?

Resp6: He was not there when I was getting pregnant

Int: Who is looking after the baby?

Resp6: It is just me and my mother

Int: What the problems you are experiencing bringing up a child and you are still a child? What problems do you face?

Resp6: when the baby is ill and my mother is not there

Int: Mhh

Resp6: At times there is no money

Int: Ok so what do you usually do when you don't have money and the baby needs food?

Resp6: Me?

Int: Yes

Resp6: Just looking for work in the community, you can go and be employed for a week and be paid or if there is a deal

Int: Which type of jobs do you usually do?

Resp6: House help

Int: Oh ok that is nice to hear that is an experience. What are you using now to prevent another pregnancy?

Resp6: I am on the coil.

Int: Ok and do you know of other girls who use Family Planning methods?

Resp6: Yes

Int: Which ones do they use?

Resp6: They use injection, Norplant and pills

Int: What age?

Resp6: They are just 15, 16 and 17 there

Int: Oh and they have babies?

Resp6: Most of my friends have babies

Int: Most of your friends are pregnant?

Resp6: Yes

Int: You were in school with?

Resp6: Yes and at times you find (unintelligible) having sex with her

Int: Ok and the others do we have any girls from your class who dropped out of school or aborted last year?

Resp6: No

Int: They are not there, is there anyone from your class who has aborted a pregnancy?

Resp6: No

Int: What are the rest doing do so that you don't get pregnant, it is still too early for you to be pregnant at your age?

What method of prevention are you using so that you don't get early pregnancy?

Resp6: Abstain

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Abstain

Int: Next

Resp5: Being faithful

Int: Being faithful to whom so that you don't get pregnant right now?

Resp: Silence

Int: And you, what method are you using to prevent early pregnancy?

Resp3: Condom

Int: Condom (chuckles from the background) and she said coil. It is good to know so that if you don't know you can at least know what the other person is doing.

Resp: Abstain

Resp2: Coil

Resp1: Abstain

Int: That is fine, someone said she uses the condom is there a time you feel it is risky and you might get pregnant or are there any challenges because we have had cases where

people say they were using the condom and got pregnant in the process?

Respl: Yes

Int: Do you use it always or there are times you feel that you can get pregnant or your fellow girls have used condoms and then got pregnant.

Respl: There are cases like that.

Int: Why do you think or from what you have heard, they use the condom and still get pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: We just want to understand we are all girls here, you have heard it being said or there are girls who say they have been using the condom and yet they got pregnant?

Respl: Maybe if they use it in the wrong way

Int: Ok, fine are there any views or questions? Things we have not talked about on abortion and you would like to add?

Resp: Silence

Int: Before we complete?

Respl: Ok, thank you for your time; we are now through with our discussion.



PROJECT	STEP UP
FGD	GIRLS
DATE	10-02-2013
VENUE	VIWANDANI
MODERATOR	N1
NOTE TAKER	THERESA BANGE
TRANSCRIBER	T1

Int: Hayaaa, we all mixed and that is fine isn't?

All Yes

Int: To start with all of us live here in Viwa, isn't it?

All: Yes

In: What are the problems youth of age 15-19 face in  
Viwandani?

Resp: Please repeat (all laugh)

Int: Ok what are the problems young people of your age face,  
here in Viwandani?

Resp6: Raping

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Lack of school fees

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Poverty which leads to prostitution

Int: Poverty which leads to prostitution, mhh

Resp2: Early pregnancies

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Being lured with sweets (chuckles)

Int: Mhh?

Resp: Silence

Int: I didn't hear that

Resp4: Children being lured with sweets

Int: On children being lured with sweets, and they are cheated  
and then do what?

Resp4: They follow someone....when they eat those sweets they  
follow someone

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And this person goes and rapes her or does bad things to  
her

Int: Mhh

Resp1: With early pregnancy you may decide to abort and once do  
the abortion you can die

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Drug abuse

Int: What else are there other problems?

Resp4: Some children steal in school and take those things to  
their parents

Int: What else?

Resp: Silence

Int: Do we have crimes, violence, theft incidents and such  
like things?

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh?

Resp: Yes

Int: They are there?

Resp: Yes

Int: And what do the others think?

Resp4: True, theft cases are there

Int: Mhh

All: Yes

Int: Eh! (Laughter)

Int2: Who are these people who are thieves?

Int: Others are really thinking hard, what do the others  
think? (Laughter)

Resp6: You just hear of thieves, thieves, maybe you are sleeping  
and hear people shouting thieves

Resp3: But there are theft incidences here

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Even at school here;

Int: mhh

Resp4: There are other children who are sent by their parents to come and steal. They steal and take to their parents

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Yes

Int: Ok that is fine. Now those are many problems that you have told that are found in Viwandani

All: And what about relationships that involve boys and girls, how are they in this place?

Resp2: Mostly you find that these relationships end up in pregnancy and maybe that person denies that he is not responsible

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And such like things

Int: Mhh hmm, mhh what do the others think, are there relationships between boys and girls here in Viwandani?

Resp6: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp6: When you get pregnant with your boyfriend, your parents will chase away once they come to know about it

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Now you have to find where to go and live

Int: Ok, what is the age bracket of these boys and girls?

Resp4: You can get others are about 18 years, 15 years for girls

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Yes

Int: Mhh 18, 15? Do we have other relationships of young girls and older men?

Resp4: Yes

All: Yes

Int: They are there?

All: Yes

Int: Are they very many (all laugh)

All: Yes

Int: And why are there such relationships?

Resp2: You can imagine a 40 year old man going for an 18 year girl, and this man has money so he uses it on the girl

Int: Mhh

Resp2: After impregnating her

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And not just pregnancy, she can also get HIV AIDS from her

Int: Mhh

Resp2: After getting HIV AIDs from him, the result is being sick and when she gets sick she will then (unintelligible, low tone, all laugh)

Int: Mhh, others, there are relationships of young people,  
boys and girls aged 15-19 years, she said there are those  
one of a person aged 40 years dating a girl aged 18 years

Resp4: There are some who marry girls aged 14 years

Int: 14 and someone aged how many years

Resp: Mhh?

Int: A girl of 14 getting married to someone of what age?

Resp1: You can get it is someone aged 50 years (all laugh)

Int: Why are those ones there?

Resp1: Mhh?

Int: Why, a very young girl and an older man?

Resp1: She gets married to the old man because he has money

Int: Mhh

Resp1: He will cheat this girl and she gets into the box and she  
will have to have sex with him and in the end she might  
get pregnant

Int: Mhh and are these cases many here?

Resp5: He must have sex with her first before giving her the  
money; if she doesn't do that she will not get it (all  
laugh)

Resp2: Some girls engage in such relationships because maybe  
there are poor

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So for her to get the basic needs

Int: Mhh

Resp: She is forced to get someone who is older like that so  
that her needs can be met

Int: Ok you look for an old man so that you can survive?

All: Yes

Int: Ok and what problems do come out of these relationships  
we have just mentioned?

Resp6: When you get pregnant you can drop out of school

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And you can also die maybe because someone has encouraged  
you to abort and the mean of abortion might be the wrong  
one and then you end up, dying or something like that.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And maybe if you get pregnant you can be abandoned by  
your parents, maybe you parents are very religious  
(Christians)

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Yes, they can also isolate you

Int: Mhh

Resp6: especially if you decide to abort and they don't want

Int: Mhh

Resp6: You can also get pregnant and do an abortion and in future never have children again

Int: Mhh R3, those relationships cause what kind of problems?

Resp3: There are others who may decide to commit suicide

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Maybe because their parents...you know there are some parents who are very strict

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And when you are pregnant you don't have any choice, nowhere to go and you just end up committing suicide

Int: Mhh ok (chuckles)

Resp: Silence

Int: What else can result out of these relationships?

Resp: Silence

Int: They have said, pregnancy, others say abortion leading to death, another one said you can go for an abortion and never be pregnant again, mhh, and another one said you can be chased away from home?

Resp: Silence

Int: And are there others who get married?

All: Yes

Int: Mhh, which relationships are these that result into marriage?



Resp1: You know when you are in the old man's relationship; he  
could be having a wife somewhere

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And the boy

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Maybe this boy may reject you

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And desert you or you get another one who may marry you

Int: Mhh and mostly which ones end up in marriage; the boys or  
the older men?

All: The boys

Int: The boys?

All: Yes but not all of them

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Yes, there are some who will reject you (all chuckles)

Int: Ok, why don't the older men get married?

Resp5: Because you might find that the old man has a wife

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Or maybe he didn't love you, he just wanted to use you

Int: Ok, mhh fine. Now let us go back to pregnancy and  
abortions and look at it closely from what you have told  
me. These unintended pregnancies, you had not planned for

it and here you are pregnant, are these cases commonly found in Viwandani?

Resp3: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Yes

Int: And what about the others, what do you think?

All: They are many

Int: Why do you say they are many?

Resp2: You can be raped without knowing

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You might never know that your neighbor is someone who is a bad person, and he just catches you and rapes you

Int: Mhh ok, you all said they are many, why?

Resp6: There is poverty

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Some girls are forced to look for boys and older men

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And when might end up getting pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Maybe he has refused to use the condom or you also don't know about family planning methods which is also not good for you

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And you get pregnant,

Int: Ok mhh? What do the others think; are these unintended pregnancies many or they are not many here in Viwandani for girls of your age, pregnancies that you had not planned for?

Resp: Silence

Int: R3 what do you think are there many girls who get pregnant?

Resp: (Silence)

Int: When you do that what do you mean? (All laugh) You are just shaking your head

Int2: Everyone has to participate; we have not heard view from R3

Int: Mhh, are there many girls with these pregnancies?

Resp3: Yes

Int: Mhh how many have you seen this year that are of your age?

Resp: Silence

Int: Yes, ok R3 is still counting in the head how many she saw, she will tell us, mhh?

Resp: There are those girls who are aged about 15-18 and they don't have that...they still don't have any knowledge on family planning as my colleague has just mentioned

Int: Mhh

Resp: And maybe they are in bad company

Int: Mhh

Resp: Maybe the company she has is of girls who are  
experienced; therefore they know how they go about these  
things

Int: Mhh

Resp: And once joins such company

Int: Mhh

Resp: and because of peer pressure she might end up getting  
pregnant without knowing

Int: Mhh, fine and what were we saying, ok you told me that  
you dropped out of school in form two?

Resp5: (All laugh)

Int: We just want to learn from you also

Resp5: I got pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Yes

Int: You were in which class?

Resp5: I was in form two

Int: Mhh ok and that is last year?

Resp5: Yes

Int: When are you due to have the baby?

Resp5: This month

Int: Ahh had you planned for it?

Resp5: No

Int: Tell us what happened so that we can hear from you.

Resp5: It comes as peer pressure,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The way you see your friend has a boyfriend

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She gets money and you also find yourself doing the same

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You find yourself pregnant

Int: Mhh ok it was peer pressure; you just followed your friends?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Ok and what does the father of the baby say?

Resp5: Mhh?

Int: What did the owner of the pregnancy say?

Resp5: He has accepted responsibility

Int: Ok, fine it is good to know because others can learn from there

Resp5: Mhh

Int: So that when they find themselves in such situation they should not look at it as if it is something so bad that

they may decide to go and commit suicide (all laugh) that is why I am asking you, is that ok with you?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Yaah, and what makes girls get these early pregnancies, you have mentioned poverty, you follow an older man because of poverty

Resp4: There are some who have not had their menstruation yet and they love sex so much

Int: Mhh (All laugh)

Resp4: You will find her engaging in sex before she gets her menstruation and that is a problem

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And also with peer pressure you can also find that

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Your friend comes and tells you if you have sex, you will enjoy this and this, so you want to also want to...you want to know...let us say how does it taste (laughter) so that you can also have that experience too

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And you find yourself pregnant

Int: Ok, yes, what else makes one get pregnant; you have mentioned poverty, peer pressure and another one has just said there are those who just love sex

Resp1: others are involved in drugs

Int: How?

Resp1: If you take drugs there comes a time you will decide to  
go and have fun with friends

Int: Mhh

Resp1: When you go and maybe you have taken drugs and alcohol,  
you are drunk and you don't even know yourself

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You find that someone takes advantage of you

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And he can rape you

Int: Mhh what else? R3, have you now thought about it?

Resp: Silence

Int: You have not thought about it, can you get pregnant?

Resp3: Silence

Int: You haven't (others laugh)

Resp3: I don't know

Int: But girls of your age get pregnant?

Resp3: Yes

Int: Why do they get pregnant?

Resp3: I don't know

Int: No we said that we are going to talk and we also waiting  
to hear from you. Mhh?

Resp: Silence

Int: Just tell us one point, why do girls of your age get pregnant?

Resp3: They are caught and raped

Int: They are caught and raped, you see, you have talked so why were you afraid?

Resp: Someone can do abortion when she gets pregnant?

Int: We will talk about when we reach there; we have not reached the topic yet. So you told me many things and are there girls who get pregnant maybe because the family is not supporting them in any way?

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp: Maybe the girl is living with her parents and her mother has never told her that when you do this and that is bad

Int: Mhh

Resp: So she will just be there and she doesn't know anything to do with control or what happens and so she will find herself pregnant

Int: Ok mhh and are there who use family planning and maybe they have failed? She uses them and then she gets pregnant

Resp: Silence



Int: Silence (all laugh) are there girls of your age who use family planning methods or have you heard of any?

Resp5: Yes I have heard of it

Int: You have heard it?

Resp5: Yes

Int: And do they get pregnant?

Resp5: No, they haven't gotten pregnant because up to now they are still using it

Int: Mhh whatever you heard is being used is which one?

Resp: Norplant

Int: Norplant, are they married?

Resp5: No

Int: They are in school?

Resp5: No, they dropped out

Int: Mhh why?

Resp5: They just refused schooling

Int: They refused school and do they have children?

Resp5: No

Int: ok mhh, is there any other method?

Resp5: I don't know of any other I just know that one.

Int: Norplant?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Fine and now, for the boys in Viwandani, how do they feel when they have put a girl in the family way?

Resp4: Some jump up in excitement (laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Others go and gossip with their friends let us say boys are in a group

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When the girl passes by and the boys start showing interest of seducing her, he will tell them ahh, that one I have tasted her (all laugh, unintelligible) leave her alone

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Let us say the girl was a good girl and she happens to get pregnant with some boy, whereby people used to say she cannot get pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And she happens to get pregnant, he will go round saying that the girl was just walking around proud and I have already put her in the family way

Int: Ok mhh and how do the others behave when they make a girl pregnant?

Resp5: Some of them when you get pregnant, and you were in a relationship

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And all through he was good, after he has made you pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp5: He will assume you and even pretend that he has never seen you

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Even when you meet he will shun you off

Int: Mhh

Resp: Ok

Int: Are there others who feel they are real men since they have put a girl in the family way?

All: Yes

Int: They feel proud?

All: Yes

Int: How do they behave?

Resp6: There are some who feel good after making a girl pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp6: When you give birth and take the baby to him he will not refuse because he wanted to be called a father, he will go

telling people that girl is carrying my baby, he is now a father (laughter). He is a father to someone.

Int: Ok mhh [name] you said there are boys who boast

Resp6: Yes

Int: How do you know that they are proud? How do they change and start behaving?

Resp6: (Chuckles) from what he says, when they are in a group and maybe you were this type of girl that boys used to seduce but you are hard to come by. So at last he is able to fix you he starts boasting to the others asking them how they were seducing you that they didn't succeed. You can see I am (unintelligible, low tone)

Int: (Chuckles) Mhh any other contribution, how do they behave when they are showing off their pride?

Resp: Silence

Int: And are there those that feel embarrassed when they have put a girl in the family way?

Resp5: Yes, there are those who get embarrassed

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Especially if you were a girl and used to like boys so much

Int: Mhh

Resp5: When she happens to get pregnant she will feel very embarrassed because she was sleeping with everyone

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Because when she goes about feeling proud, they comment and say we have already had sex with her

Int: Ok

Resp2: Maybe he made you pregnant while he is still in school,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: When he thinks about it later,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: His self esteem goes down

Int: Mhh ok and why should his self esteem goes down?

Resp2: Maybe because at that particular time he was being controlled by emotions

Int: Mhh

Resp2: When later on he ponders about the fact that he has made a girl pregnant, he asks himself what he was doing at that time.

Int: Ok mhh are there others who get embarrassed?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok and what do people say about such boys who make young girls pregnant, unintended pregnancy?

Resp: Silence

Int: What do people say? You mean you don't gossip about them  
in any way? (All laugh) or what have you heard your  
mothers say about such boys?

Resp: Silence

Int: Yes?

Resp: Silence

Int: Is there anyone who knows a boy who made a young girl  
pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: Is there anyone who knows someone? Anybody?

Resp: Silence

Int: It could be a neighbor or anyone

Resp: Silence

Int: We don't want to know the names

Resp: Silence

Int: What do people say, maybe they made a girl pregnant and  
now the girl had to drop out of school or she aborted the  
pregnancy?

Resp: Silence

Int: Mhh?

Resp2: Maybe the boy made a girl pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And at that time maybe he was not ready to get married and so he denies that he is the one responsible for that pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp2: But the time he is now ready and wants to get married he may find it a hard time for him to marry because people already know that he is the type to put girls in the family way and then desert them

Int: Mhh

Resp2: At last he may find himself lonely

Int: Mhh ok, yes what have the others heard?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok you will tell me that after you have thought about it or remember a boy who lives nearby. Ok and what would make a girl want to get pregnant when the boy is not ready?

Resp1: Let us say he is your boyfriend and he is a well organized person and to crown it all they are a rich family and your family is poor, you will feel that if you get pregnant he might not desert you

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So you try your level best to get him to make you pregnant so that he doesn't desert you.

Int: Did you hear what she said?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Mhh what are the other reasons?

Resp4: You can also have a very handsome boyfriend (all laugh)  
and he has about five girlfriends

Int: Mhh

Resp4: One of the girls might go and get pregnant so that the  
others can feel jealousy

Int: Mhh any other reason?

Resp: Silence

Int: There is no other reason?

Resp2: You will find that a girl has been infected by the HIV  
AIDS virus and so she decides she is not going to die  
alone and I have to die with so and so

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So she will say so and so thinks he is so holy, so she  
then finds her way to the boy's life

Int: Mhh holy, a holy boy is one who is how?

Resp2: Holy is a boy who doesn't like associating with girls so  
much and having sex with them

Int: Ok so that is a girl who is HIV positive?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Ok mhh is there any other reason that would make a girl  
say she must get herself pregnant with a certain boy. That



one, I must have sex with her and get pregnant even if  
doesn't one

Resp: Silence

Int: Any other reasons? Has it come to your mind?

Resp: (All burst into laughter)

Int: Girls in Viwandani when they get pregnant what, do they  
usually do?

Resp5: Most of them usually go for abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Because maybe you don't have the ability at home, the boy  
has deserted you

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Or you don't want your parents to know because they are so  
harsh

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You feel the best way out is abortion

Int: Mhh ok

Resp6: Others, when they hear that they are pregnant and they  
happen to know that their parents are harsh, she will  
commit suicide

Int: Ok, but why?

Resp6: Let us say she got pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp6: And she had not plans for it and it will deter her from going on with her education at the same time she doesn't want people to know that she is pregnant.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: She will have to commit suicide

Resp5: You can also just have an abortion because you didn't plan for it and you were just having sex and didn't expect to be pregnant.

Int: Ahh so you feel I will give birth and be like so and so, no way (others laugh) and what do the others do?

Resp2: Others get married when their parents reject them with the pregnancy

Int: Why?

Resp2: Maybe her parents may not allow her to stay with them

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She will be forced to go and live with that boy

Int: What do others do, because you said that there are many cases, some of you have said others abort, commit suicide, others get married and so what about the rest?

Resp: Silence?

Int: What do the others do?

Resp1: If you are not able to abort you will just have to give birth

Int: Give birth?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Ok

Resp: Mhh

Int: And then they bring up the babies?

Resp1: Yes

Int: And are there others who give out the baby?

Resp1: Others throw the baby away

Int: Others throw it away?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Ok

Resp2: Other sells (laughter)

Resp4: You put in a carton box and put it beside the road

Int: Ok mhh (laughter) you put on the road for what to happen?

Resp4: You can....a good Samaritan can pass by and take the baby

Int: Mhh

Resp4: The mother of that baby is usually nearby watching for who  
will take the baby

Int: The mother just sits there watching?

Resp4: She sits there and pretends that she is not the one

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When she sees that someone has picked the baby and she happens to know the person, when her situation improves she will go and ask for the baby again (Others laugh)

Int: And supposing a stranger takes?

Resp4: A stranger?

Int: Yes

Resp4: I don't know

Int: Or the baby just gets lost like that.

Resp4: Mhh

Int: So they sit aside to look at who will take the baby?

Resp4: Yes

Int: And when the baby grows she goes back to take it?

Resp4: Not all do that

Int: And when a girl leaves the baby there and then later on goes to take it back, what usually is the problem here or why does she do that?

Resp4: Bringing up the baby

Resp2: Maybe she is not able to bring up that baby and now that the economy is high, you know bringing up that child is difficult for her up to a point when the baby will grow and start working. It will be difficult for her. You can imagine looking after a child and then someone comes to demand when the baby is an adult.

Int: They go for the children when he is how old?

Resp4: About ten years or so

Int: And are they usually given?

Resp4: She will steal the baby when no one is seeing

Int: Oh

Resp4: Like if the baby has been sent to a boarding school the mother will pretend that she has been sent by the family and takes the child away.

Int: Ok mhh, fine. There are those of you who said that the child is sold, where do they sell the children?

Resp4 They sell to people who are barren

Int: Here in...what is the process like, supposing I wanted a baby do I go to the market (all laugh) or what do I do?

Resp1: I hear that there is a place when you give birth and are not interested in the baby you can take the baby there.

Int: is it a person or a home?

Resp1: It is like a children's home.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And there is someone to look after them

Int: Here in Viwandani?

Resp4: Yes, it is there

Int: How much do they sell? (All laugh)

Resp6: A lot of money

Resp1: It is a very good business

Int: A good business? (Laughter)

Resp: (unintelligible)

Int: Oh you haven't?

Resp1: No, but I am sure it is good money

Int: Good money? (Laughter)

Resp1: Yes

Int: Ok I think that is not a business for me (laughter) ok and  
we have those who give birth and give out the baby or kill  
it?

All: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You put the baby in a polythene bag and throw it in the  
sewage or down the bridge

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She throws it in the sewage, you find the baby in it with  
the placenta and the umbilical cord

Int: They give birth, put the baby in the sewage and throw it  
in the sewage?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Ok but won't someone see you really?

Resp5: It is usually thrown in the night

Int: Oh ok fine. Let us say...ok you said there are many things people do including committing suicide, those are the girls who do those things. What about the boys who are involved? When they realize that they have impregnated a girl what do they usually do?

Resp5: There are some boys who will deny it or if the parents of the girl are harsh, they can take him to the chief so that he is forced to take responsibility

Int: Mhh so some boys deny but they are forced to take the baby. And what do the others do?

Resp5: They relocate (others laugh)

Int: They relocated

Resp5: If he was living in Lunga he will move to Kingy (short form for Kingstone) (still laughing)

Int: And that is still in Viwandani?

Resp5: Yes but you cannot find them at all.

Int: Why do they relocate?

Resp5: They are avoiding responsibility

Int: ok and what do others?

Resp1: Most of them relocate to other places and avoid that responsibility

Int: Mhh mostly they relocated

Resp1: There are some who will not relocate but changes his route  
(laughter) when you wait for him you will never see him

Int: Ok

Resp5: Others accept and then give her the money to do an  
abortion

Int: So all of them usually give out money for abortion?

All: Not all of them

Resp: some of them will give you money because he is jobless or  
even others are thieves

Int: Mhh

Resp2: He will give you money to go have an abortion done.

Int: Ok you said mostly many of them are thieves; you mean to  
tell me that boys from here, most of them are thieves?

All: Yes (Laughter from the girls)

Int: Ok that is fine. Are there boys who would impregnate a  
girl and then tell the girl that they give out the baby or  
sell it? Or even throwing away like that one of putting in  
a carton box? The boy tells you that tomorrow we will do  
this? (Laughter) are there boys who help the girl to do  
those things?

Resp: Silence



Int: Ok fine you said that there are so many issues that girls do face and some even strangle the babies, others abort and the others usually decide to give birth

All: Yes

Int: And those girls who decide to take care of this baby, what kind of problems do they usually face?

Resp5: Maybe you could be looking after children and you don't have any money

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Of the baby's father deserted you and when he realizes that the baby is doing well, he now comes and demands to be in the life of the child.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: yes

Int: What about the others, what problems do they face when they are bringing up children? She has mentioned lack of money.

Resp2: Some will not have enough money to bring up the child and decides to join prostitution

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So that she can earn some money

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Others will bring up the child but problem will now be how to take that child to school.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You are don't have the capability and so what you are doing to improve the situation is just look for money to feed the child only because she cannot be able to raise enough money to take the child to school

Int: Mhh what is the other problem? Are there others whose parents stop supporting them because of that?

All: Yes

Int: There is?

All: Yes

Int: What do they usually do?

Resp6: When the girl gets pregnant, maybe they also don't have that ability to take care her as they would have wished to and now when she gets a baby they feel that burden will be too much for them to manage and so they end up chasing her away

Int: Ok mhh, what kind of problems do the others get?

Resp1: Such children lack identity

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Because you mother raised you as single mother and now you feel you will just stay like that instead of getting married

Int: Mhh (chuckles) and how does that become a problem?

Resp1: It is not easy to support yourself in such an environment

Int: Mhh ok

Resp2: And others, especially if the boy deserted the girl, you will just get that one child and conclude that men are all the same, you might get another who will impregnate you and then abandon you, you assume that everyone will always do that to you and you remain single.

Int: Mhh is there any other problem they face?

Resp: Silence

Int: And what about when it comes to schooling, what problems do these young girls face in relation to their education?

Resp5: They experience problems because they will drop out of school

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And maybe they were quite bright girls

Int: Mhh like you....were you very clever (chuckles from the rest) ok what about going back to school like for your case, after delivery do you plan to go back to school, will you be allowed to go back to school?

Resp5:I am fifty; fifty I may go back or not

Int: Why?

Resp5:Maybe one of the parents is not good

Int: Mhh

Resp5:The other one is too harsh. So this one will reason I  
cannot spend on money on her I may lose again

Int: Mhh

Resp5:So he might refuse and your mother is helpless she also  
depends on him

Int: Mhh

Resp5:So that is the situation

Int: Ok, so the harsh on is the father?

Resp5:Yes

Int: So it depends, you may lack money to go back to school.

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp2:You can also be shy to go back to school and feel others  
will talk about you behind your back

Int: Mhh

Resp2:And so she refuses to go back to school.

Int: Ok is it being shy or it is because people talk behind  
their backs?

Resp2: There are some instances where people talk and discourage you, they gossip but in other circumstances you just don't feel comfortable about going back to school

Int: Mhh ok fine, now all these problems that you have mentioned, you said that others become prostitutes so that they can get money,

Resp: Mhh

Int: And what do the others do so that they can get money to take care of those babies.

Resp5: They start selling groundnuts (others laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They sell groundnuts, and for the girl, she will go for any job available even if it means selling in a club

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She will accept anything that comes by

Int: Mhh and the others do what to raise these children?

Resp5: Others work in companies if they are of age

Int: Ok mhh

Resp5: You can also decide to get married to an old man to cater for her needs

Int: Mhh ok so there are old men who are ready to marry them?  
(Laughter)

Resp5: Those whose wives are dead (laughter)

Int: Those are the only ones who can marry them? Ok (all  
continue laughing)

Resp5: They are old whose wives die and they are over 35 years of  
age, the kids are already big and since he wants to  
continue with life, he can only marry a girl with a baby.  
There is no girl who can accept to get married to a  
widower with children. Here you are with a kid and in  
problems, you will just accept

Int: Oh ok so death is also a savior? (Laughter) Mhh, what do  
the others think?

Resp4: There are others who really hurt their children

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Your father can also rape you

Int: Ohh

Resp4: There are some men who rape their daughters and then they  
abandon the family and goes to live elsewhere a good life

Int: There are people who do that here?

Resp4: Yes

Int: Does it happen that often?

Resp4: Not in the recent past, I just heard it only once

Int: Mhh ok so those problems girls experience, money issues  
and the kind of jobs these girls do, what about those girl  
show have been chased away from home, you said there are

some parents who chase their daughters from home and they cannot bring up the baby, what do these girls do?

Resp5: If the boy accepts responsibility then you can go and live with him

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Others go to live upcountry

Int: Upcountry to whose place?

Resp4: The grandparents, where her parents came from

Int: Oh and it is because your parents have chased you away from Nairobi?

Resp4: Yes

Int: But those homes you are going to don't they belong to your parents?

Resp4: You will go to the grandparents

Int: Grandparents don't have issues like parents?

All: No (laughter)

Resp4: But a father can also call home and tell your grandparents not to allow you stay there.

Int: Mhh ok and what do the others do?

Resp5: If you have been chased by your mother, your boyfriend has deserted you, wherever you go you are chased away, others will decide and commit suicide.

Int: Mhh ok, that is fine. You said there are those who get embarrassed,

Resp5: Mhh

Int: People laugh at them, how do they survive?

Resp5: Some usually overcome that whereby she reasons that she will get used to the gossip and you just look and ignore them

Int: All of them can overcome?

Resp5: Not all, some of them become stressed.

Int: Ok we have talked about those things that you can do to survive and also after getting the baby what next. So these girls, and the boys who are responsible for these pregnancies, what kind of problems do they face? There are those boys who accept responsibility of the pregnancy, isn't it?

All: Yes

Int: So for those who have accepted that responsibility of these pregnancies what kind of problems do they get after the baby has been born and now they are faced with responsibility of bring up the baby?

Resp2: The boy is still too young, maybe he is only 20 years and has no money, maybe his parents stop him from marrying you but he goes ahead and does that



Int: Mhh

Resp2: He has no money

Int: Mhh

Resp2: he has no where he can go and look for money and so he  
becomes a thief

Int: Mhh ok what else?

Resp: There are others who will decide to beat you mercilessly

Int: Mhh

Resp: Maybe the moment you tell him that you need money for such  
and such thing and maybe he doesn't have that money,  
instead he loses temper and decides to beat you  
mercilessly everyday so that you ran away

Int: mhh that is fine and is there any other problem men face  
or it is just girls who face the challenges?

Resp2: if he gets married to you and he happens to see another  
beautiful girl more than you (all laugh), he will start  
seducing her and being in the house you will only hear or  
rumours and start feeling bad

Int: Oh, that is stress already

Resp2: Yes

Int: And what about the boys, is it only the stress?

Resp2: Yes, for lacking money

Int: For lacking money?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Is it a big problem...

Resp1: of being laughed at with the new girlfriend

Int: Ahh mhh.

Resp1: They laugh at him and tell how he got married to a child

(laughter)

Int: Mhh.

Resp5: Of he is told by the others that he is a father and should go away because he cannot fit in their company.

Int: Ok so there are those whose friends run away from them because they are now fathers?

Resp5: Yes.

Int: But why, is being a father a big deal?

Resp5: They want to continue with their leisurely things which you cannot because you want to save the money and spend it on our child.

Int: Mhh fine and are there boys who are chased away from home because their girlfriend has given birth to a baby?

Resp: Silence.

Int: You said a girl can be chased away from home with her baby; can a boy be chased away from home also?

Resp: If for example the boy was living in the mother's plot and maybe he had put a girl in the family way and still wants to live with her there.

Int: Mhh.

Resp2: The mother will definitely chase him away if she doesn't want him to get married.

Int: Mhh.

Resp2: She will chase him away.

Int: Mhh.

Resp2: For example the mother will refuse anything to do with the boy completely.

Int: Mhh ok.

Resp2: There are some parents who will feel that since their son is jobless and relies on them and then here is an extra two mouths to feed, they will see it as a burden. And so they will chase him away to go and fend for him

Int: Mhh ok and so what do they do now; you have been chased away, you are jobless?

Resp2: Some will tell the wife to go back to her home as he looks for money or what to do.

Int: Another one? And supposing the wife has been chased away or she has nowhere to call home (all chuckles)

Resp5: You can decide and start collecting plastics and washing cars.

Int: What are the plastics for?

Resp5: You sell them for money or you look for work in a company

Int: Ok that is fine. And those who are being laughed at by their friends that they are now fathers, what do they usually do?

Resp5: They chase the girls away.

Int: Mhh....what?

Resp5: He will chase the girl away because he wants to be with his friends

Int: Ok,

Resp: Mhh

Int: Ok fine is there anything else you have seen or know about boys and girls and pregnancy that we have not talked about? Or something that happened near you place and you can remember it now?

Resp: Silence

Int: Of a boy who made a young girl pregnant in your neighborhood? Can you remember any? Ok we are still thinking about it? We will come back to that. Fine, now let us talk about abortion; you have mentioned it so many times, isn't it?

All: Yes

Int: Is abortion rampant here in Viwandani?

All: It is plenty here

Int: It is there?

All: Yes

Int: And what do the others say? Is abortion there?

Resp: Silence

Int: Silence means?

Resp2:Not sure

Int: Is it a lot, on average or what is the situation?

Resp2:It is on average

Int: And you have said not sure where would you place that?

Resp2:Average

Int: Ok and why do you say...ok let us start with the one who  
said a lot, why do you think the situation is like that?

Resp5:There are many doctors in the community who can do that  
job

Int: Mhh

Resp5:And their charges are very low

Int: Mhh

Resp5:So you see the girls will go there and have the abortion  
done

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Or you wake up in the morning and you find a baby has just been disposed right outside there,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The one which has not fully developed, it is thrown down the drainage

Int: Mhh ok oh, so in a month you can get like how many?

Resp2: There was a time you would get many but these days they have reduced.

Int: Mhh ok and what about those who say it is average?

Resp2: Because many girls these days have known methods to use to avoid getting pregnant like family planning

Int: Mhh

Resp2: They are now enlightened

Int: Is there anyone else?

Resp6: Some girls have discovered that abortion is risky when you do it

Int: Mhh

Resp6: others are encouraged not to do so because they can die and so they decide to stay with it

Int: Why did you say average?

Resp: I didn't say anything

Int: And so what are your views? Is it a lot of not?

Resp1: It is not much because these days many people are  
enlightened than before. These days they use condoms as a  
means of preventing pregnancy and it costs only Sh20  
(all laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And whoever gets pregnant wants it

Int: Ok many boys use the condom?

Resp: I really don't know that much (all laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp: when you wake up in the morning you find so many condoms  
thrown in the trenches and you will obviously know that  
something is happening (all laughs)

Int: Ok and (unintelligible) practice family planning?

Resp: yes

Int: What do they use? What have you heard that they use?

Resp: Pills

Int: Pills?

Resp: Yes

Int: That is what you have heard that is being used here so  
much?

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok and you also said the abortion is on the average, why  
did you say that?

Resp: There are some girls who give birth and leave the children with their parents and go to look for work

Int: Mhh

Resp: After getting the job she gives the money to the mother and the mother goes on looking after the baby. Every time she gets some money she takes to the mother

Int: Mhh

Resp: So that the mother can continue looking after her child.

Int: Ok so there are mothers who agree on taking care of the babies

Resp: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp: It is average because when you get pregnant it is like a lesson to you

Int: Mhh

Resp: The challenges you face are too many and you feel you cannot do that again until the right time

Int: Fine and you? Have you seen people abortion or have you heard of people who have aborted?

Resp: Mhh?

Int: Have you heard of girls getting pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: Have you ever heard of such?



Resp: Yes

Int: Please speak louder we cannot hear you well. Have you ever heard of one?

Resp: Yes

Int: How many have you heard that have aborted in your neighborhood?

Resp: There are many

Int: Many?

Resp: Yes

Int: How are you able to identify them? How will you know that she has had an abortion?

Resp: There was one who was in school and got pregnant and went to have an abortion

Int: She went to have an abortion?

Resp: Yes

Int: Where?

Resp: At Cana

Int: Mhh that it called what?

All: Cana health centre

Int: Mhh ok, so there are others you have heard about that have aborted apart from that one?

Resp: Silence

Int: When you twist your head, I don't know what that means,  
are there others you have heard about?

Resp: No

Int: If that is fine. Is there anyone who knows of a friend or  
neighbor who aborted?

Resp: Yes

Int: You know of one?

Resp: Yes

Int: Tell us the story, what happened, how did she do it? How  
did you know? (Some disruption from outside) She was  
where?

Resp: She was in school and was found to be pregnant so she was  
sent at home because it was boarding.

Int: Mhh

Resp: When she went home she went and had an abortion and went  
back to school

Int: Mhh how did she do it?

Resp: I don't know I just heard that she had aborted; I don't  
know how they do it

Int: Ok what makes girls Viwandani decide to abort?

Resp: Some are advised by their parents

Int: Mhh

Resp: That if they want to live here, they should have an abortion

Int: Ok mhh any other reason?

Resp: Maybe others want to continue with schooling

Int: Ok, mhh any other reason, why do people abort, she has told us that because some are encourage by parents, others do it because they want to go to school, what else makes girls abort in this community?

Resp: Maybe they don't want or they are not ready to bring up a child and feels it might be a burden to her because she is used to roaming around and having a child will mean she has to sit at home looking after the baby. To her that is a problem.

Int: Mhh ok

Resp2: And others like having many boyfriends and once she realizes that she is pregnant she will abort so that she can continue having many boyfriends

Int: Mhh ok, mhh why do people abort?

Resp1: Because they want to achieve their goals

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Maybe I want to continue with my education, get a job after completion and then help the family

Int: Mhh ok, is there any other reason as to why girls do  
abort, [Name]?

Resp1: So that they can walk with their friends

Int: She wants to?

Resp4: She knows if the girlfriends realize that she is pregnant  
they will refuse to walk with her

Int: Oh

Resp: Because she is now a mother

Int: Ok (all laugh) ok that is fine. Ok are there girls who  
just abort because their family is poor? They are  
incapable?

Resp: Silence.

Int: Are they there?

Resp4: There are some who abort because their parents are  
drunkards, they drink changáa and they are poor, the  
little money they get is what they use for drinking and so  
you will just have to abort.

Int: Mhh.

Resp4: Because if the boy refused to take responsibility and your  
parents are also not responsible the best alternative is  
to abort.

Int: Ok.

Resp4: Yes.

Int:

Resp4: There are those who abort because the mother is still bringing up the siblings who are still very young and she is not yet through with them.

Int: Oh so she cannot manage another burden of a child?

Resp: No.

Int: Ok is there another reason?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok and are there girls who get pregnant because they were raped?

Resp: Silence

Int: Mhh?

Resp: Silence

Int: Silence, (all laugh) you said that rape is there?

All: Yes

Int: And those girls who have been raped are there those who get pregnant?

All: Yes

Int: They are there?

All: Yes

Int: What do they usually do with that pregnancy?

Resp5: Others decide to abort since it was not their wish

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Maybe she doesn't know the person who raped her

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So she may decide to abort

Int: OK, mhh that is fine. Ok in Viwandani what do people say about abortion?

Resp2: It depends on different people there are some who encourage while some parents I know who are Christians

Int: Mhh

Resp2: They will look at it as sin and so they will not encourage abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp2: While to some parents that is life, one has to survive and so abortion is a must.

Int: Ok the Christians

Resp2: discourage abortion

Int: And the others?

Resp2: They feel it is normal there is no effect at all

Int: Ahh, why the difference?

Resp2: All Christians believe that abortion is killing and according to the Bible, killing is a sin.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: That is why they discourage abortion

Int: Ok and how do the other people view abortion here in Viwandani?

Resp: Silence

Int: How do your friends view abortion or what do they say about abortion?

Resp2: There are some who fear abortion because maybe she saw or heard of someone who went to abort and dies, so when thinks of that person and fears that she might die, she will not do it.

Int: Ok and those who fear are the ones who have witnessed the friends doing an abortion?

All: Yes

Int: OK, [name] you are smiling, mhh?

Resp4: I have heard that there was a girl who was foolish so she had one of those songs that go like this "Abortion is a crime" and so she was like why is abortion to cry and instead she interpreted it that "Abortion is to try" and so she went and had sex with a boy and then later one went and did an abortion after getting pregnant (all laugh)

Int: Ok no wonder you called a fool! (All continue laughing) Ok what do the others say about abortion?

Resp2: Some are discouraged by parents who tell them that if you abort and maybe that is the only child you would have gotten in your life

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So if you abort you will never get any other child in your life and you will live like that without a baby.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And so the girl thinks how will I live this life without a baby?

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And maybe she would have been married by then

Int: Ok and how do the boys view abortion or what do they say about abortion?

Resp: Silence

Int: What do they say about a girl who has aborted?

Resp3: If she is young they will gossip about her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And no one wants to see his girlfriend like that and that she aborted

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Yes

Int: How do they view abortion?

Resp6: It is a crime



Int: Oh ok

Resp1: Yes

Int: And all boys don't like abortion?

Resp5: There is no one who likes abortion but then when you get a baby and you don't have any money, you will have to go and abort

Int: Mhh

Resp5: it is not that you want to do that but if you had the money

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You would have kept the baby and not aborted the pregnancy at all.

Int: Ok, do the others agree with her that no one likes abortion?

Resp1: There are some who like abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp1: They don't want to take that responsibility

Int: Mhh

Resp: (unintelligible, low tone)

Int: Mhh

Resp2: There are some who don't want their CV to be spoilt like he impregnated a girl and so you see the CV is being ruined because you are always impregnating other people's

daughters and so he will encourage you to abort so that people may not know about it.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: That is why they don't encourage you to keep the pregnancy

Int: Mhh ok and R[name] has not given us any example of a girl who went to abort at Cana health centre, it is a hospital?

Resp: Yes

Int: And how do they others go about abortion?

Resp: Silence

Int: Let us contribute we are about to finish. How do people carry out the abortion, what have you heard they do?

Resp1: They take a lot of Colgate

Int: Colgate? (All laugh)

Resp2: Tea leaves

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Others drink Omo (washing powder detergent)

Int: Others drink what?

Resp2: Omo

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Quencher (all laugh) that has not been diluted with water

Int: Oh, the one which has not been diluted?

Resp6: No

Int: What else?

Resp5: Others use pills

Int: Pills?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Which pills are these?

Resp5: I don't know what type but I know they use pills; it is something I heard from my friend,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The mother forced her to abort and she bought her some pills

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She took them

Int: The one you told me that (unintelligible, low tone?

Resp5: Yes

Int: You don't know how many they were?

Resp5: I don't know

Int: And Quencher, quantity? (All laugh) What do they say? I have always been taking quencher in a glass maybe I have also been aborting without knowing

All: (chuckles)

Int: What quantity do they take?

Resp6: I wouldn't know the quantity but it has to be concentrated

Int: Mhh ok so you don't know if it is one glass which is enough

Resp6:I don't know

Int: Those who take quencher say how much is supposed to be taken?

Resp6:About half litre (all laugh)

Int: [name] you also said Quencher how much do they take?

Resp4:Mhh?

Int: You heard that they take what quantity?

Resp4:You can take one litre but I hear that the doctor usually agitates the uterus before the foetus develops but I don't know what he uses

Int: Mhh ahh

Resp1:He agitates the uterus until there is no sign of pregnancy

Int: Mhh that there is no sign of pregnancy?

Resp1:It is what I have heard but I don't know

Int: Mhh

Resp2:I also heard that there are these TBAs'

Int: Mhh

Resp2:They use hooks though I don't know how the hooks look like

Int: And then?

Resp2:That is what they use for aborting

Int: Oh they do what?

Resp2:I just heard, I don't know

Int: To they pull the baby with those hooks or is it something edible?

Resp2: No you don't eat them they insert them I don't know where,

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And then they pierce that womb where the baby is and tears it

Int: Help her I can hear you whispering

Resp1: They puncture the amniotic fluid and when it comes out the baby also follows

Int: Mhh I also heard of another style of tea leaves

Resp1: I hear that you take very little water and a lot tea leaves, real concentrated

Int: Mhh

Resp1: That it is not easy to drink but after you take it the pregnancy comes

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Even Colgate, the big Colgate

Int: Ahh! (All laugh)

Resp1: You eat that Colgate like a meal and you don't wait for the baby to grow, two weeks is good

Int: So when I am pregnant I will take Colgate, it works?

All: Yes

Int: And not Aquafresh? (All laugh)

All: No just Colgate

Int: And that Quencher gets rid of a pregnancy how old?

Resp2: I don't know

Int: And the pill?

Resp2: About month

Int: And this baby who the doctor interferes with in the  
uterus?

Resp5: I hear that with such case the baby is usually big enough  
whereby the baby cannot be puncture inside there

Int: Ok and what about hooks?

Resp5: Maybe two to three months?

Int: Ok and [name] you said that you had someone went to  
hospital and had the baby removed, what did you hear they  
did?

Resp5: We didn't enter inside (All laugh)

Int: Ok what did you hear them say that they did to her inside  
there?

Resp5: Mhh?

Int: What did you hear being said that is done inside there?

Resp5: I don't know

Int: You didn't hear them say what the doctor had done?

Resp5: No

Int: ok that is fine. Ok and girl who is looking for way to terminate her pregnancy, what kinds of challenges does she usually face?

Resp2: You know some really don't know where to do

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And so to be able to approach someone and start asking that it is this and that so that courage usually fails her and that is one of the first challenges she faces

Int: Ok why can't she have the courage to ask?

Resp2: A person will wonder why small girl like that would ask about abortion and she is not pregnant?

Int: Mhh ok, what is the other problem when you are thinking of where and how you are going to have an abortion from?

Resp2: Others think that maybe they could die in the process of an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp2: So you start thinking about it

Int: Ooh is there anything else? Do the girls think about the cost? You want to an abortion and when you look at the money you have? Do people think of such things?

Resp1: Of course you have to think on those terms because if you don't have enough money you cannot buy those things you want to use

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You need to have enough money

Int: Ohh

Resp2: And for others, when you don't have enough money to go to have an abortion in hospital that is when you end up with alternatives like drinking Omo, tea leaves

Int: Ok, so what is cheaper out of these things; tea leaves, Quencher, Omo, Colgate which one is cheaper, oh I forgot there is Colgate (other laugh) which one is the cheapest?

Resp2: Tea leaves

Int: Tea leaves (all laughs) so tea leaves is the cheapest?

Resp2: You can even get one for three bob?

Int: So the one for three bob is enough?

Resp2: It may not be enough but at least it the cheapest (laugh)

Int: Ok, so the tea leaves are the cheapest?

Resp2: Yes,

Int: And the most expensive one is which one?

Resp5: Quencher

Int: Quencher?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp5: No the pills

Int: Pills are the most expensive?



Resp5: yes

Int: How much would they cost?

Resp5: I don't know but I am sure it is expensive

Int: And what about those who think of things like safety, they might die or things like that, which one is the safest?

Resp2: hospital is the safest because I will come of that place shining

Int: Hospital is the safest?

Resp2: Yes

Int: And which one is not the safest?

Resp: Silence

Int: The one you are just like, here.....

Resp5: The one of hooks (all laugh)

Int: Hooks?

Resp5: Yes that is scary

Int: Ok

Resp2: They can even puncture your intestines (all laugh)

Int: That they can puncture what? (All still laughing)

Resp2: My intestines

Int: Ok that is fine, and do people ever think of what method would be secret where people won't know what is taking place? Is there anything like that? Someone wanting to do

these things in secret, she doesn't want people to know  
what she is doing

Resp2: Yes

Int: Which method do you think is very private whereby people  
will not know what is going on?

Resp5: There is no private method because once you terminate that  
pregnancy you will start feeling weak.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And if you had a friend who was aware of what was taking  
place, she will definitely tell the others

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So you find that the whole village is aware.

Int: Even Quencher is not private or safe?

Resp2: It can be private only if people have not realized that  
you are pregnant

Int: Ohh ok there is no private method?

All: No

Int: After an abortion what are the risks or dangers that one  
faces?

Resp2: Maybe something like that one of hooks, the TBA could  
damage your uterus without you knowing about it

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And you end up never giving birth again

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You can also do the abortion and get other diseases

Int: Mhh ok what else?

Resp2: There are some means which may not be very safe for  
example when you take Quencher which is very concentrated;  
it might be corrosive to other parts of the womb. You  
might die in the process

Int: Ok mhh what else?

Resp: Silence

Int: Consequences of abortion, like never getting a baby again,  
you can die what else? Are there others who get problems  
with their thoughts of what they did?

Resp5: You can get that problem if people were aware of the  
pregnant and they talk about it until it reaches your  
parents,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So you get scared of their reaction

Int: What about your health, is it affected in any way?

Resp5: Maybe you are not working so you cannot buy or provide for  
yourself a balance diet and your parents cannot cope, you  
cannot also tell them that you did an abortion because  
that is a problem already

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You will be forced to eat what is being provided at home  
since there is no extra one for you.

Int: Ok

Resp5: And you also know what, some parents are responsible for  
what happens to their children because you encourage your  
child to have an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So the girl gets pregnant knowing that my parents helped  
me last time and they will still help me to do that just  
your health deteriorating

Int: So there are parents who assist the daughters to have  
abortions?

All: Yes

Int: Are they many?

All: Yes

Int: Ok parents, father and mother?

Resp2: (Chuckles) mothers

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You cannot tell your father because he is harsh, maybe  
your mother you can tell and she will advise on what to do

Int: Mhh so mothers are the ones who assist daughters to have  
abortions?

All2: Yes

Int: So the dangers that come with abortion are you can miss children in future, you can die, your health deteriorates and so forth, and are there situations when your boyfriend hears that you have aborted he deserts you?

Resp2: It will depend because if it was your boyfriend who encouraged you to abort, he will not desert you again, maybe he is the one who gave out the money you used to go and have the abortion

Int: Ok (all laugh) another one, are there others who reject you when he hears that you had an abortion?

Resp1: I don't think so, I have not seen one

Resp3: He can reject you if he had wanted to keep the baby

Int: Mhh

Res: And so when you go to abort, the boy will hate you for doing that

Int: Mhh ok, that is fine. We have about three questions and we are done. We have talked about the consequences of abortion, isn't it?

All: Yes

Int: Now in Viwandani when a girl of your age wants to have an abortion who can she tell?

Resp5: You know she will tell her close friends

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And they are the ones who will tell her what to do. If  
among them there is one who has had an abortion, she will  
be advised accordingly

Int: Anyone else; can we contribute we are about to finish. Who  
else can you tell?

Resp2: Others do tell their parents

Int: Mhh

Resp4: If you have an older sister

Int: And older sister?

Resp4: The one you trust

Int: You mean there are others you don't trust?

Resp4: There are others you don't agree

Int: Ok

Resp1: Before you even tell a friend a mother will have known  
that my daughter is pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp1: She can also help you make a decision

Int: And supposing she suspects or knows you are pregnant and  
you have not shared with her what you think, who can she  
talk to first? I have heard you talk to best friend, close  
sister or parents, who else?

Resp2: You can also decide not to tell anyone and go ahead and do  
what you want

Int: And she will not tell anyone?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Ok and why do they decide on telling the close friend?

Resp5: Maybe you don't know where to go and do an abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So you go you best friends

Int: Mhh to see how they can help?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Why tell your sister?

Resp4: So that she can tell the parents

Int: Mhh (others laugh)

Resp2: Because if I face my mother directly she might beat me so

I will use my sister to go and tell her

Int: Ok

Resp4: But even school I can say because there are some people

who come to help

Int: Oh

Resp4: They help those children who are vulnerable

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Those children who have been raped and I am sure if you

tell them your predicament they might help you out

Int: At school?

Resp4: Yes

Int: Who are these people?

Resp4: They call themselves...there are some who come...there are some who come to school

Int: Is it a group that comes?

Resp4: Yes, it is a group of girls that usually come

Int: Ohh

Resp4: Oh young girls like me and they come and offer advice

Int: Ok so if you want to abort you can tell them?

Resp4: You tell them your problem

Int: Mhh and someone else mentioned that she will tell her parents, why would you tell your parents?

Resp2: You can tell your parent so that when the outcome is not good, a parent can help by taking you to hospital

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Or even offer advice on what is the best cause to take or what method you can use for abortion if they are for that, they also know which method is risky.

Int: Parent means what; a father or mother?

Resp2: Mostly it is the mother

Int: Ok that is fine. There are those who tell maybe the teachers at school?



Resp2: We have the guiding and counseling department at school who, can help if you approach them and tell them your problem

Int: Guiding and Counseling are teachers or students?

Resp2: Teachers who are qualified in that field

Int: Why would you tell the counselors that?

Resp2: Maybe they can advise you

Int: Mhh

Resp2: They can approach your parents on your behalf; maybe they are very harsh to you so when they talk to the parent concerned, they may make him/her understand your predicament and help

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The parent can decide to forgive you or help you in some way.

Resp2: You are here also; you mean you cannot help someone? (All laugh)

Int: We are here, come and tell us. Ok do we have those who go and tell the church like the pastor, the women's leader, youth leader...? (All laugh)

Resp: Ahh!

Resp2: Maybe there could be someone you trust

Int: But how come you were all surprised?

Resp2: Imagine telling the pastor and the day he is giving a sermon he uses your circumstances you are in as an example  
(all laugh)

Int: Ok, why wouldn't you tell the pastor or the other church leaders?

Resp: Silence

Int: It is not that you go to that church but maybe that pastor is your neighbor or you know him in some other way, would you tell him?

Resp: (Shaking head)

Int: Does that mean yes or no? Mhh, pastors or people from the mosque...

Resp: Mostly they are not the best people to help you. One or two maybe in a position to help you but later on you will be the main subject of gossip

Int: Mhh

Resp6: So you feel shy after you have aborted

Int: Ok

Resp6: And others give you the wrong advice

Int: Mhh

Resp: Maybe she knew you were very bright in school and now that you are pregnant he might even tell you a means that can ruin your life

Int: these are the church people?

Resp6: Yes

Int: They do that?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Mhh anyone else? [Name]?

Resp7: Mhh

Int: This church you go to, can you tell the people there (all laugh) do you think a girl can go and tell the church people that she is pregnant and wants to have an abortion?

Resp7: You can tell like the Catholic Sisters if you are closer to one of them your problem maybe she can help you

Int: She can help you in what way?

Resp: Mhh?

Int: How can she help you how?

Resp7: She might encourage you to not to abort or advice in some other ways that can be helpful to you

Int: Oh the Sister at the church can she be helpful if you want to terminate a pregnancy?

Resp7: Yes

Int: [name] can you tell your pastor?

Resp3: No

Int: Why?

Resp3: They cannot help anyone at all (all laugh)

Int: Why do you feel they cannot help someone? Have you ever approached one?

Resp3: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp3: I told another girl and she....

Int: She did what?

Resp3: You know you can go and tell them about your problem and in your mind you have decided that you want abort so when you approach them they will start by telling the side effect, the consequences of abortion and that is already stress he is creating for you to add on what you already have

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You have decided that you are going to abort now he tells you how it is a sin and you are now left hanging because you don't what to do

Int: Mhh

Resp3: He will not have helped you so far

Int: Ok

Resp: Mhh

Int: So the person who can really help you when you want to abort would be who? Who is the best person to tell?

Resp1: Your mother

Int: mother, mhh

Resp3:Mother

Int: Mother also?

Resp2:Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp2:Mother but if your mother is born again she will prevent  
you from doing it

Int: Mhh

Resp2:She will stop you

Resp5:When you are pregnant and you have made a decision that is  
it

Int: Let us assume that all of us are pregnant and we want to  
abort, who can you tell that secret?

Resp3:My mother

Int: You are still insisting on telling your mother?

Resp3:Yes

Int: And you?

Resp2:Mother

Resp: Either my mother or the Catholic Sisters

Int: Mhh

Resp2:I will not tell anyone

Resp1:Mother

Int: Ok it looks like all us like telling our mothers our secrets? Ok what else have we not talked about abortion that you might have seen or heard about here in Viwandani that we have not discussed about it? Something that you saw but didn't like or an incident that shocked you on abortion or it was a good story? (Unintelligible)

Resp: (All laugh)

Int: Anyone who knows someone who had an abortion?

Resp2: I know of someone who did an abortion and died

Int: Where?

Resp2: Upcountry

Int: What happened?

Resp2: She over bled but I don't what method she used because she bled to death

Int: Mhh how old was the girl?

Resp2: About 17 years old

Int: Mhh ok anyone who has heard of a girl aborting and dying?

Have you heard of such incident in Viwandani?

All: No

Int: Maybe you saw someone who aborted and her health deteriorated?

Resp: Silence

Int: You have not heard of any. And have you seen people who have had abortions and they are ok?

Resp: Yes

Int: And the rest, have you ever seen anyone who has aborted and is doing well now?

Resp: Silence

Resp4: I have heard

Int: Theresia?

Resp4: I just heard not seen

Int: Heard?

Resp4: Yes I just hear people say

Int: And [name] the one you saw who had aborted, how did she continue?

Resp2: She was weak for while before recovering. Later one she got pregnant again but this time she kept the pregnant and gave birth

Int: Ok, how old was she at that time?

Resp2: 14 years

Int: 14 years?

Resp2: yes

Int: Ok and where did she go or who took her wherever?

Resp2: She is the one I told you that the mother bought for her some pills to take and the pregnancy ended

Int: [name]

Resp2: She did have an abortion and today she is working and you wouldn't know that she had a problem before.

Int: How old was she?

Resp2: She was about 24 years

Int: ok that is fine, and what method did she use?

Resp3: I don't know (others laugh) I wouldn't know which method

Int: [name] you said you have seen someone who has aborted

Resp2: I just saw and she is alright and I don't know what method she used to do the abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I just hear but I have not gone there to ask her. You see someone with a big abdomen then after while it is flat. You cannot go and ask her what happened

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Of sometimes you can be walking with a friend and maybe a boy approaches you and you happen to refuse to listen to him or maybe they were friend the moment they differ you hear him saying; go away, stop showing off and yet you have aborted three pregnancies! And so if you were together you just know that your friend has aborted before

Int: Oh

Resp2: You don't know but you happen to hear



Int: The friends abuse them?

All: Yes

Int: Finally what do you think can be done so that these unintended pregnancies among girls of your age are prevented?

Resp2: Campaign on abortion,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: seminars that emphasize mostly on abortion, the consequences

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And after that means in which to avoid finding yourself in the family way.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You see when you don't get pregnant you cannot abort therefore you tell the girls how to avoid getting pregnant

Int: Mhh,

Resp5: Or those people who help girls have abortions if they are caught doing that they should be punished severely

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And that way they will stop it.

Resp2: In a case of rape, what can one do?

Resp5: You know when you are raped, you can go to hospital for treatment and you will be asked if you want to keep the

pregnancy or not. The final decision is usually yours to make.

Int: What else can be done so the girls of your age don't get those unintended pregnancies?

Resp: Silence

Int: Do you have younger sisters?

Resp: No

Resp: Yes

Int: Ok let us say you have younger sisters and you don't want them to get pregnant what will you do so that they don't find themselves in such a situation?

Resp6: You advise them

Int: Mhh

Resp6: Tell the disadvantages of unwanted pregnancies

Int: Who tells them now?

Resp6: A girl like me

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You can also discourage her from having relationship that lead to sex

Int: Mhh ok what else? What else can help prevent unintended pregnancies amongst young girls?

Resp4: Avoid drug abuse

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When a girl is in that situation she might be high on drugs and people make use of her so she will not know who impregnated her so we need to discourage drug abuse.

Int: Yes?

Resp: Silence

Int: What?

Resp3: Finish with the others first

Int: We are just learning ok, if I come back to you [name] assume you didn't get pregnant at all what, from your experience, what can be done to prevent some of these unwanted pregnancies?

Resp5: Avoid bad company

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Be careful when it comes to peer pressure

Int: Mhh

All: Yes

Int: Is there anything your family would have done to help prevent that pregnancy from occurring?

Resp2: No, maybe if I do it personally

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I am the one to prevent myself if had not followed my friends

Int: Oh is there something your family did and you didn't adhere to it or what happened?

Resp2: I was cautioned but I didn't listen

Int: Ok that is fine, and right now, you others, what are you doing to avoid getting pregnant?

Resp2: Abstain

Int: Yes

Resp5: Abstain because if you enter a relationship you will find yourself in pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Abstain

Int: And you have really been thinking about it hard! This is a learning forum. You said abstaining, and you also will abstain?

Resp: Yes

Int: [Name] what will you do so that you don't get pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: What will you do so that you don't get pregnant, this time I am going round and everyone will tell us something, we are now finalizing, [name]

Resp2: Abstaining

Int: How are you abstaining?

Resp: Silence

Int: How are you abstaining? We are now coming back to you?

Resp4: I have said no to sex

Int: That is what you are doing, saying no to sex?

Resp: Yes

Int: [Name]

Resp5: You need to abstain and if you cannot do that then you  
better use a condom

Int: Mhh so after this pregnancy what will you do so that you  
don't get pregnant?

Resp5: I will abstain or do family planning

Int: You will abstain or do family planning?

Resp: Yes

Resp2: Abstaining and also avoiding bad company. You should also  
use your pleasure time well to avoid being idle because an  
idle mind is a devil's workshop

Int: Mhh

Resp2: When you are idle you might find yourself thinking of  
other things therefore you make sure that you use your  
pleasure time well.

Int: Ok that is fine and I think I have reached the end. I  
don't know if there is anyone with a question?

Resp2: No

Int: [name] you have not told us how you avoid an unwanted pregnancy

Resp: Silence

Int: Your contribution is the last one which will close the meeting for us

Resp: Silence

Int: Anyone with something?

Resp6: We would like to get any advice from you.

Int: Any advice from us?

Resp: Yes

**090114 001 FGD GIRLS 17 - 19 YEARS**

PROJECT	STEP UP
FGD	GIRLS
DATE	10/02/2013
VENUE	APHRC VIWANDANI OFFICE
MODERATOR	M1
NOTE TAKER	N1
TRANSCRIBER	T1

Int: As a I told you before I am Theresa and to start with I would like us to introduce ourselves like you tell me

your name, age and if you are in school or not, that is all. Let us start from here

Int: What are the problems youths are facing here in Viwandani?

Resp1: dropping out of school not because you want but parents may not have the money so you will be forced to drop out school and go to look for work so as to help the family

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Most girls are usually cheated so much and in the end they get pregnant and give birth

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Others end up doing abortion instead of giving birth

Int: Mhh

Resp3: so you get that another one dies while she was trying to abort. You would rather have a baby instead

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Yes

Int: What else?

Resp3: Most girls in school get cheated and in the process of being cheated, they drop out of school, others get pregnant and abort

Int: Mhh and you said they get cheated, who cheats them?

Resp3: By boys,

Int: Mhh

Resp3: They are cheated with boys or men with money or teachers.  
Even after giving birth instead of someone going on with  
schooling they drop out and assume that is the end of  
their lives.

Int: So most girls here when they give birth they don't  
continue with school?

Resp3: They continue with school

Int: Fine

Resp3: There are some girls who join those bad groups in the  
village and the moment you join that group you will drop  
out of school.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You start roaming about with them and getting seduced  
with boys out there

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You get pregnant

Int: What do those groups of bad boys do?

Resp3: They have dropped out of school and some of them have run  
away from school

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And such like things

Int: Mhh



Resp1: You get that girls drop out of school and get cheated  
with boys who have money

Int: Mhh

Resp1: (unintelligible, background noise) and such like things  
and you get the girls have dropped out of school, they  
are pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp1: the boy deserts here

Int: Mhh

Resp1: after girl has been deserted she can either give birth,  
or abort and if there is money she can go back to school.

Int: Mhh

Resp: Other drop out because there is no money

Int: Yes and what other problems do you get apart from those  
you have just mentioned like getting pregnant, being  
cheated and so forth?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there other problems like health or education that  
young people, particularly girls of your age in this  
community face?

Resp1: Yes, there are some girls; maybe she had a boyfriend who  
was HIV positive

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Then after having sex she ends up when she is HIV positive and drops out of school

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Yes

Int: There are girls who have dropped out of school because they are HIV positive?

Resp1: Many

Int: Many?

Resp1: Not very many

Int: And why do they drop out of school just because they have AIDS?

Resp1: I wouldn't be able to know why

Int: Mhh in your opinion why do you think a girl will drop out of school just because she has AIDS?

Resp5: There are some girls who

Int: mhh

Resp5: Who feel that when they have AIDS it is like she cannot look at you straight in the eye because she thinks that by looking at her you can read the signs of AIDS in her face.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So a girl will avoid going to school because in the process of learning the subject she will sense that she

might be having those signs and starts suspecting that she has the HIV virus.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: When a girl suspects herself like that she might tell her best friend about it but at the end of the day, the information would have been spread far and wide in the community that she is HIV positive. The other thing I have discovered with girls is that they fear asking a boy his health status

Int: Mhh

Resp5: I would like to advice girls that when a boy comes to ask for friendship, confirm his status first

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The first boy that comes confirm his status first and don't let him lie to you in any way and you just go like that

Int: mhh

Resp5: You need to find out more about the boy and you can also find out from his best friend what kind of person he is then from there you can continue with the relationship. The problem with girl in this community is that they fear the men so much. He comes and convinces had and since there is no money

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You don't have to go with a man because he is handsome  
and is loaded with cash

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Once you know your status you must also find out his  
health status before anything serious starts between the  
two of you.

Int: What about when it comes to education, are there any  
problems? (Children crying in the background)

Resp4: There are some girls who are forced to go to school with  
their parents and maybe they didn't want to

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Because the parents wants their children in school so  
that people in the community don't laugh at them. So they  
don't want their friends to ridicule them that their  
children are not in school. And so because she was forced  
to go to school she will not learn well

Int: Mhh

Resp4: So you also find that when a girl gives birth she is  
forced to go back to school

Int: Mhh

Resp4: And most of them refuse because when a male teacher comes  
she is looking at him and starts thinking what is going

on out there. Her mind is on things that are outside there so you find that education is not a priority to her; things become hard for you and you cannot concentrate and even when you are seated in that class learning, others will be keen but you...what I would advice girls is that when you are being forced by parents to go to school tell them the truth that you don't want to go back to school and they can take you for a skills course and do something else if you want to but not being forced to go back to school

Int: And why wouldn't you want to go back to school if you have that chance, because not very many people get that opportunity

Resp4: You know when you get a baby and you are told to go back to class you will spend your time thinking about your baby

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You are thinking maybe the baby is sick and you cannot be at peace even if you wanted

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You continue thinking of the baby all the time. Concentration is not there.

Int: In your opinion girls who have given birth should not go back to school?

Resp4: If you feel like and there is an opportunity then go ahead and do it

Int: Mhh is there any other problem related to education that young girls in this community experience?

Resp5: Maybe if what is being taught is hard and you are not able to understand anything at all

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You try telling the parents that you cannot be able to handle that but they start abusing you instead

Int: Mhh

Resp5: maybe there are some parents who like comparing their children with those of the neighbor, you are not working hard, and you are this and that

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So the girl feels discouraged so much, until you just drop out of school like that because you are wasting your time there.

Int: And if the teacher is teaching others who are able to understand, why can't you also do that same?

Resp5: Each and everyone have his own ways of doing things. There are those when they teacher is standing there

teaching, they will listen there are those who can gain more from reading books, and now we have those who do not understand anything however hard they try

Int: Mhh

Resp5: It is not the books are everything; there is who just reached class four and wherever this person is you cannot compare him with a person like me who completed form four last year and I cannot see myself going anywhere, I can see myself stuck here

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If the results come out, maybe I might not have anywhere to go and yet that person who dropped in class for is so far and you wish you had done the same so that you could accomplish certain goals

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If I had not proceeded I would have been like this person and such like things so you compare yourself with other people.

Int: Ok and why do you feel that after completing form four there is nowhere you will go?

Resp5: I hear that life is a matter of hustle and I am trying to do that, yes through that hustling there are times I am

lucky but when the results come out that when I will know whether I will proceed with university education or not

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Or I will make use of those results to get a job and when you look at most youths these days, they don't get jobs that easily

Int: Mhh

Resp5: you find that someone has graduated and has a degree but still he is hustling with life in this city

Int: Ok

Resp5: Yes

Int: is there any other problem that girl of your age face?

Resp3: Another problem is caused by parents

Int: Mhh

Resp3: The mother doesn't bother about her daughter for example a girl has special needs of which some of them are private

Int: Mhh

Resp3: There are certain things she cannot ask from the father

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And there are things she can only ask the mother

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Now the mother is not concerned about these things



Int: What are things for girls?

Resp3: Sanitary towels

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And other things that she needs and you find that a girl fears that mother so much that she cannot ask from her

Int: Mhh

Resp3: The mother is not also concerned about the daughter's needs. She will meet a boy out there

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And this boy will seduce the girl and shows her that there is something like money. She will agree to meet his demands

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Ok and they continue with life and end result is dropping out of school or getting pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That will either make her drop out of school or get married

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Therefore parents need to try their level best and make sure they support their daughters

Int: Fine

Resp3: Yes

Int: Ok and do we have crime in this place, is there insecurity?

Resp4: There is a lot of insecurity here, this is a ghetto and the government doesn't care much about the people in the ghetto. They bother with better places like Runda and you will find that they are provided for with security 24/7, everyone needs security, when they request for something they given unlike the ghetto whereby everyone knows that we are hustlers

Int: Mhh

Resp4: We are self independent and so you find that crime is a lot and that is why many youths here engage in crime because no one will asks you anything here

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You just do what you want because life in the ghetto is hustling and you have to find all ways in which you can earn a livelihood

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You find that even us girls, we go out to steal

Int: Mhh

Resp4: It is some kind of hustling that is not credible until you find that most girls are the ones who sell drugs in the ghetto, you will not get that from many boys

Int: Mhh

Resp4: The boys know how to hold these things (guns)

Int: Girls of what age bracket do these things?

Resp4: Our age and you find a girl dropped out of school maybe because the parents didn't have money and maybe his job terminated or they differed with the Indian boss and such like things. So you find that a girl doesn't continue with school and so she starts hustling. Now you find a girl of my age is selling things like bhang and the like so that she can support herself

Int: Ok and how about those who steal are they girls of your age?

Resp4: Yes

Int: Mhh and what kinds of things do they like stealing?

Resp4: They steal things like money

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Things that you can steal and sell and get some money. Girls of the present generation steal using many methods; she can go and get a man, steal from him by drugging him through drinking and then you steal from him.

Int: How do they drug through drinking?

Resp4: You put some drugs in his drink and he falls asleep.

While he is sleeping you take away all his things and go your way.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When he wakes up he finds himself with nothing

Int: Is that what most girls do here?

Resp4: Yes, ghetto life is hustling and you have to find ways and means in which to survive

Resp5: But they don't do that here, they go to those high places  
(all laugh)

Int: Which are these high places?

Resp5: You cannot steal from a neighbor he/she is also hustling like you.

Int: Mhh so where do you go to steal from

Resp: Crosstalk

Resp4: You go to those high places, the pubs where the rich always go. You look for some money also so that you can also be seen that you are rich (all laugh) you go and see them with wines and whatever but what you hold is just the (unintelligible, laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You watch him drink his things and then after a while you go and sit near him and you know what, these days girls are good at seducing men

Int: Mhh

Resp4: They know how to approach boys not like before when you had to wait to be approached. These days when you find yourself broke you just go and find...you talk to the girl nicely

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When you go and he tells this and that you drug him and you don't go to such places when you know that you don't have anything you will use to get things.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You must know which corners are good for hustling

Int: Mhh and what kind of sexual relationships do girls in this area have? What kind of people do they relate to?

Resp5: Just boys, school leavers

Int: What age bracket?

Resp5: It is not that we like it that way but it depends on the language the boy will come with to you

Int: Mhh (all laugh) if the boy comes with a good language

Resp5: And he maybe a school dropout, but you are a school dropout and you just imagine the kind of language he uses on you

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If you get someone is in (unintelligible) and you don't even know how much it costs,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You feel this boy is too smart and you go with him

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You don't waste your time trying to discover whether it is the mother or father who is buying them

Int: Mhh

Resp5: When you reach the house and you hear him being asked for rent and he goes to ask from the mother, you move out early (all laugh) because you don't want to bring problems to yourself because even you sit there and ask for money he will ask you where do you expect him to get the money when he is depending on his mother.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Therefore most of them are school dropouts that girls go out with

Int: Mhh

Resp5: A man with money will only want to take advantage of you but he will never stay with you under one roof all he wants is service only. But a boy who has dropped out of school will tell you to go to his place and so you cannot fear this person because you know he will handle his mother in his own way, and that is not your business at all.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So you continue like that but I cannot go for an old man.

Int: so you are telling me that there are girls who have relationships with people who have money.

Resp5: Do you think as a girl I can go out with a person without money and I accept? I will not and I will just tell him I will follow you but he will never see me at all  
(laughter) People are looking for men with money

Int: so a man with money is of what age bracket, you are groups or...?

Resp: No

Res5: Sugar daddies (laughter) of a girl in the university can pay her own school fees

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Ahh no, there is nothing like that

Int: Mhh and are there others how practice prostitution?

Resp3: Very many

Int: Many?

Resp5: Yes

Int: And after those relationships of sugar daddies, school dropouts

Resp5: Mhh

Int: What are the challenges girls' faces out of these relationships?

Resp5: The first thing that I also fear is AIDS virus

Int: Mhh

Resp5: AIDS, many girls, I really don't know what the girls are thinking these days, they say that AIDS is like flu

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If you get AIDS you will go and be given medication, you cough and it disappears

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Girls are no longer taking AIDS seriously and so they don't take it as a big deal. They know even if they move with the man and happen to get AIDS they will go and get ARVs

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They want to continue surviving with money because you see those things on TV that mother has lived with AIDS



for 15 years and she has never died, so she follows the instructions the doctor has given her and makes sure that she takes the medication daily and so she continues with her job.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Because right now if we were to say that all the prostitutes are examined for the HIV virus, do you want to tell me that we will not get any that doesn't have those viruses?

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They are very many and it is just because they are on drugs and their job still continues on. No one will stop working because she is HIV positive. She will do whatever she is told because of money

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If anyone got sick and went for treatment then given medicine, he will take it from home but still go to work because he doesn't want to lose his job in the Indian company he is earning from.

Int: Ok in your opinion girls don't fear AIDS?

Resp5: No, they don't

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They fear having babies

Int: Mhh

Resp: If a girl was to get pregnant and AIDS, she would rather abort the pregnancy and leave the AIDS in the body

Int: Mhh

Resp5: They don't value the life of a baby like they value theirs.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If a girl realizes that she is pregnant right now her mind will be on abortion and nothing else

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She cannot see herself carrying that baby at all because she knows the first thing is she will grow old

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But growing old is not a big deal because whether have a baby or not, you will still grow old

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But imagine you are with AIDs and again these girls with AIDS you will not stop, you will not learn a lesson, the girls always say they will not die alone. (Crosstalk)

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She goes spreading it and he also goes and does the same so by the end of the day the whole ghetto will be having AIDS and you don't know the source. If you go for tests

you will find that I have AIDS, she has, he has and so  
you start blaming one another and so the whole village  
you are blaming one another

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Girls don't value babies so much

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But with AIDS they always say let it stay in the body but  
they cannot carry a baby

Int: What are the other problems that girls face from those  
relationships apart from getting pregnant?

All: None

Int: Ok would like us to talk about unintended pregnancies,  
what do you think is it something that happens here so  
much or it is just something....in your view when you look  
at the girls of your age, is the rate of unintended  
pregnancies high or what happens?

Resp4: It is very high

Int: Why do you feel it is very high?

Resp4: Most of the girls we were in school with have children

Int: Mhh

Resp4: But we tried our best and finished form four before  
getting babies

Int: Mhh

Resp4: But others dropped at form two, class eight, and in fact when you complete class eight, most girls look at it as if the end of the world has reached

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When you complete like this, most girls when they complete class eight, you see start walking with other groups of girls that she was not doing before

Int: Mhh

Resp4: She starts being very rude and when your mother talks to you, you answer back rudely

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When you finish class eight you want go a bit higher and you enter form one when you had gotten used to roaming about with bad company, you have been talking to boys and going places with them, music clubs and so forth. You know when you complete class eight the girls start going to clubs to have fun, you are celebrating having completed class eight. So when this girl goes to form one in a boarding school you start wondering when midterm will reach so that you can go home. When midterm reaches and you go home you tell your mother you don't feel like being a boarder. So she will take you to a day school so that you don't blame her for not taking you to school.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: when you are taken to day school, you start being unruly again you don't want to be near books when you are told to study and you are in a day school. Most girls go on Saturdays and Sundays to the clubs and you find that you are lost there

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Your life just ends like that and you stop going to school.

Int: Mhh how do you get lost there?

Resp4: When you get pregnant and you are in form one

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Or you have just completed class eight, that ends like that. You get a baby you don't want to continue with schooling

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You see...

Int: Do you all agree that most girls here get early pregnancies?

All: Yes

Resp5: I don't agree with that

Int: You don't agree?

Resp5: I don't agree with them because you may get a girl with a baby and when you stop her and ask she will tell you that she never expected to be a mother and truly when you look at her she was not the type but circumstances forced her. She may have gotten pregnant through rape or she was threatened that if she ever talks about it she will face it. So when you stop this girl and ask her about the baby she will have no answer for you because that is what happens in other situation.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: What I can say is that a girl who gets pregnant right now

Int: Mhh

Resp5: I hate girls who say that it was bad luck

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There is nothing like bad luck

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But a girl who will stand and tell you her experience then that one is bad luck indeed because she doesn't feel ashamed of telling you what happened. You get another one who will tell you that is not her kid and why is she doing that because there is something about that baby she doesn't want you to know. And also when they see their babies they start regretting why they ever go the baby in

the first place. You get a mother has a child in the house but hates the child, why? Because she didn't get the baby on her own free will. It was a coincidence that the situation came to that.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But most girls will tell you that it was a mistake, I am usually fifty, fifty, because there is one who will say it was bad luck and truly it was bad luck but there are those who just joke about it so that you don't question her too much or know her bad behavior

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So there are those girls who didn't really expect to get pregnant but they ended up like that and the situation is understandable but these days girls don't get pregnant when they are least expecting it. The girl gets pregnant because she wants to leave a legacy behind in case she dies. If I die now people will be looking at my child and this Mercy Junior, I will not just phase of the world like that

Int: So these days' girls get pregnant because they want?

Resp5: Yes, she says even if the boy is not read to take responsibility she will do it herself

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You find that she purposely goes and gets pregnant and they deny the father of the child his rights.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She will just tell the man the baby doesn't belong to him

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But because the boy has no capability, the girl knows that DNA is about Sh20,000 and no boy can remove that so they know that if I tell him the baby is not his he will not bother and the chapter ends like that.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: No boy will produce Sh20,000 for a DNA test, never, he would rather use that money to buy a better shoe or drinking (laughter)

Int: Why do girls want to get pregnant when their boyfriends don't want that?

Resp5: the boy doesn't want?

Int: As in you force yourself to get pregnant you have told me that many girls want babies?

Resp5: Yes

Int: So what is the other reason that would make you want to be pregnant yet the boy is not for it?

Resp5: You cannot go to a boyfriend that doesn't want you but you go to a boy who has been following you the one you



know that every time I pass on the road he will talk to me despite the fact that I have my mother with me

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You cannot go to our boyfriend

Int: Mhh

Resp5: the one you know that even if you were to tell him that you want a baby he will not accept that.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: That is someone who is cautious so girls usually don't get babies from the right boys. You find that these days, boys say that you cannot marry a girl you have not had sex with.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But before in those olden days girls used to get married when they are still virgins, isn't it?

Int: Yes

Resp5: But these days they say if the woman has had 100 boyfriends she has slept with still he will marry her because of respect and love. But they don't look at the background of the girl or what she has been through. You cannot go to your boyfriend who will tell you no. You go to a boy who is always after you and has always invited

you to his place. You tell him let me go and see what you always want me to come and see at your place (laugh)

Int: There are some situations where a girl will purposely get pregnant but the boy is not aware.

Resp5: The boy will not accept that responsibility

Int: Ok the boy will not accept but the girl knows in her mind that she wants to get pregnant with that boy. Are there girls who want early pregnancies using such techniques?

Resp4: These days a girl would want to get pregnant maybe because she just wants to know if she productive or barren

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You find that the girl will work hard on getting pregnant just to know her status whether she can get pregnant or not.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There are some girls who suspect themselves, maybe they have had many boyfriends and when they get pregnant they force the responsibility on someone else because they love the boy but the will never accept even if you took him to the chief. Deep inside himself he is very sure that he did not put the girl in the family way and unless

the chief wants to sponsor for a DNA, the boy will refuse completely

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The girl will insist on her real boyfriend being responsible

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But all the same the baby is not his.

Int: Mhh and what makes girls get early pregnancy?

Resp2: There are some girls who believe that even if she gets pregnant, the boy is well off and so looking after the baby is not a big deal

Int: And so she goes to get herself pregnant

Resp: Yes

Int: Is there any other reason?

Resp5: Just to leave a legacy if she already knows she can die any time (all laugh)

Int: Why would she think of dying?

Resp5: You see a girl will sit and start thinking, if anything happens to me, and these days accidents are too many

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And maybe the man is someone who travel a lot and he may die in one of them, he feels let me leave baby behind and you are also doing the same on the other side. If I die

there, people will always say this is Mercy Junior, you see you have left a legacy still.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Yes

Int: And Ok and what reasons makes girls get early pregnancies when they were least expecting it?

Resp: Silence

Int: When you think about it what makes girls get early pregnancies?

Resp1: Maybe the girl is at logger heads with the mother

Int: Mhh

Resp1: She thinks if she can get pregnant and end up with a boy with money

Int: Mhh

Resp1: She move away from home so they don't keep fighting

Int: Mhh

Resp1: So she feels the best she can do is get pregnant she will have an opportunity to move out.

Int: Fine

Resp5: Also drugs, she gets into drugs and the boy takes advantage of her because he knows she is helpless.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: That is where you find that you got pregnant when you were least expecting and of course the boy will deny it and since you were under the influence of drugs there is nothing you can do.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Life has to continue but you know that you got pregnant not because you wanted to do that. It was purely by mistake

Int: Does poverty also play any part in unintended pregnancies?

Resp5: Yes

Int: How?

Resp2: problems in the family can also contribute to that because you feel they are too much so the best you can do is get married and go away from home, somewhere better.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Problems with parents so they want to separate.

Int: Can family planning also be a contributing factor to early pregnancy?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Tell me about it

Resp3: There are some girls how practice family planning and at time they forget to use during sex

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If you are using pills, or injection, let us say pills

Int: Mhh

Resp3: and you forget to take them

Int: Mhh

Resp3: She will miss and in the process get pregnant. She will start wondering when was it that she didn't take her pills but it is too late, that is why they are a contributing factor to early pregnancy

Int: And peer pressure?

Resp5: That one usually is common with boys because you sit with those with babies and start making fun of them; you will go old before you are called daddy

Int: Mhh

Resp5: When a boy hears that he will grow old without a baby, he goes looking for a girl to impregnate so that he can also be called a father but even though he might be called a dad, he will not take care of girl and the baby

Int: Mhh

Resp5: The girl and the baby will be looked after by her parents.

Int: Mhh ok and those boys who have put girls in the family way, how do they usually feel?

Resp4: Those are don't cares, they don't care you struggle on your own, in fact they will tell you that they never carried you to their place

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Organize yourself

Int: You brought yourself!

Resp4: Yes

Int: And what do the others say?

Resp3: Others will force to you abort and maybe the girl is not interested in aborting the pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp3: He will give you money to go and abort and if you refuse he will not support you when you give birth. He will say that he gave you money to abort and you refused.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: So struggle on your own

Int: Mhh

Resp3: We agreed that you do an abortion because I knew I was not in a position to have a baby and if you refuse it is your burden

Int: Ok and are there those who feel good that they are now real men?

Resp3: Yes

Resp5: There are some who will even beat you if you say the baby is not his.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: I don't know how they feel

Int: So why do they get happy?

Resp5: Because they now have an identity, they feel that they are productive and are ready to be called a father. The problem usually arises if the girl had many boyfriends and maybe about three or four come up claiming ownership of the baby and the girl will be left hanging.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: She doesn't know whose baby it is

Int: And what do people say about the boys who impregnate girls; what do they say when they gossip about the girls?

Resp5: Boys don't care but a girl like me, I am passing somewhere and I hear people gossiping about me, that I have a baby

Int: Mhh

Resp5: I will feel bad

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And if I have the courage I will stop and insult them but a boy doesn't care about that at all. He has a kid and so



no one will control me. These days, people don't recognize them, they do it themselves

Int: Mhh and these people who gossip about the boys even if the boys don't care, what do they usually say?

Resp5: First of all if the boy in question has money then they will talk positively about him, smart things like he impregnated that girl and he is looking after them very well and so the boy feels, yes, I am a man.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But you don't have money, you will in the first place deny the pregnancy and if you pass somewhere and you hear people gossiping about him he stop them and ask them what they are talking about.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: That baby is not mine and so people will not talk about it again

Int: Mhh

Resp5: But if the boy threatens you, then you will definitely fear because if he can face his mother, who are you to be feared and you are just a simple person? If you are threatened with a boy, you just adhere and keep quiet

Int: Mhh and what about the girls what do they usually do with that pregnancy, we have talked about abortion, and

supposing you don't want to do an abortion what do you  
with the pregnancy?

Resp4: You carry the pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You carry the pregnancy like me

Int: And then you give birth?

Resp4: Yes

Int: What do you do with the baby?

Resp2: You can bring it up or you throw it away

Int: Mhh

Resp4: I would rather give birth and take care of it, there is  
no way I going to carry that pregnant for all those  
months and then get rid of the baby.

Int: Mhh she said that there are those who throw the baby away  
not everyone gives birth and brings up the baby

Resp4: Mhh

Int: So she said there are those who throw the baby and those  
who decide to take care of it.

Resp2: There are some who sell

Int: Mhh what do the others do?

Resp5: The leave it with the parents

Int: Mhh

Resp3: or sometimes others hide and run away and leave the baby  
with the parent

Int: You said that others sell the baby where do they sell the  
baby?

Resp2: There are those who throw in the river, others strangle  
the baby

Int: And for those who sell, where do they sell the babies?

Resp2: You can talk to the doctor and tell her that you don't  
want a baby and so she is given money

Int: Mhh

Resp: The doctor helps here

Int: And why would one give birth and decide to strangle or  
throw the baby away?

Resp2: There are those who try abortion and it refuses to  
succeed

Int: Mhh

Resp2: She will be forced to give birth or throw it away

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Or she kills the baby

Int: And are there others who get married just because they  
got pregnant?

Resp: Mhh

Resp2: Yes

Int: Why get married just because you got early pregnancy and it was not intended?

Resp4: So that you don't embarrass your mother because you got pregnant while still at home

Resp2: You don't want to bring embarrassment to your parents and so you decide to get married early before that happens

Int: Ok fine and are there others how give birth and then hand over the baby to a foster home?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Is there a place children are taken?

Resp5: We have these daycare centers and the know how to look after the children very well

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You go and sell to her or there are others who just give the baby for free

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You go and tell her your situation because most people who run daycare centers are usually barren or in some way or another they cannot have babies of their own.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So they have that desire to have children and so they bring up those babies just to satisfy their desire of wanting to bring up a baby

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If you don't want a baby and you sell to her, she will be very happy indeed or give her and she will take the baby and stay with it

Int: Do you have an agreement you sign?

Resp5: What for?

Int: Ok and the boys you said that they force the girl to abort

Resp3: And she refuses to do it

Int: Mhh what is the other method that boys use to deal with unintended pregnancies apart from denying the pregnancy?

Resp5: Some boys go and face the parents of the girl that is if they love her. He will tell them their daughter is pregnant and he is responsible for it. He will take care of the baby and the mother

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There are some boys who are happy with the idea but when you tell them that now let us go and face the parents they shy off

Int: Mhh

Resp3: He cannot accept it but still he will take care of the baby and you very well

Int: Mhh

Resp3: yes

Int: Are there others who decide that after giving birth you can kill the baby?

All: Ahh!!

Int: Or sell?

Resp4: I cannot agree if I am that girl

Int: But there are boys who do that?

Resp4: Yes

Int: And are there others who tell you to give birth and then, they give out the baby to someone else, to bring it up or give to a children's home?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There are those who take the baby upcountry

Int: You take the baby upcountry to whom?

Resp5: There are those who do that.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You can tell your mother to hold for you the baby and run away after all, your mother cannot throw the baby away

Int: Mhh and those girls who have given birth, what challenges, do they face? I am happy we have real examples here. What are the challenges you face when

bringing up a child, this is to all of us whether you have a baby or not?

Resp3: There is no one to help you and then you struggle on how to survive because you don't want to look for someone else. You feel discouraged by the boy who was responsible for the pregnancy you carrying and so you decide to struggle on your own

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You can leave the baby at the baby care though there are some baby care centers, which, don't look after the baby well and so after three months of leaving your baby care with them you find its health is down.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You leave a one month to three months baby at the baby care as you go to look for work. There are times you don't get work; you don't have money for baby care and food for the baby

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That way you start going down with worries

Int: Ok what is the other challenge of bringing up a child?

Resp5: When the baby is sick. When a baby is sick and there is no one to take of it, you will start worrying since you

don't have anywhere to get money for treatment at a health facility

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There are no free health facilities, and you need the treatment and even if the treatment is free you will be given a prescription to buy medication

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You don't have that money to buy that medicine and that becomes another stress for you all together

Int: Mhh ok, are there other problems girls face when bringing up the children?

Resp3: These days you can decide to take the man responsible for that baby to The Children's Department so that he can be taken to court so that you can get some help for you and the baby

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If the boy is cunning he will go and bribe those officers and the case will just disappear like that and so you struggle on your own

Int: Is there any other problem when bringing up a child?

Resp1: None

Int: There is none, ok and you [name]

Resp4: The baby is still small so I don't know (all laughs)



Int: Are there other problems besides what we have just mentioned?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok so what do they do so that they can get the money?

Resp1: they will just have to hustle

Int: How?

Resp1: You can use drugs to steal from men; you just put something in his drink

Res5: You can asks a neighbor and wash for them clothes or utensils and you are paid something like Sh30 or so

Int: Mhh

Resp1: You can fry groundnuts and sell

Int: What else?

Resp: You can also work in a bar

Int: You mentioned someone can go to a children's office where the boys goes and bribes the officers so that the case may not continue? How do such girls succeed cope?

Resp3: Maybe you have made so many trips there and with no fruits you decide and let it go and look for someone else who is willing

Int: He is willing to do what?

Resp5: Bring up the baby, provide food and also pay our rent

Int: You look for a man to marry you or just a boy...

Resp3: Yes, there are others who look for married men

Int: Mhh (baby screaming in the background)

Resp3: For example many girls advice others to look for marred men because those ones are responsible.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: For example I live alone and many people have advised me to look for someone to pay for your rent, buy food for the baby

Int: Mhh and why the married men?

Resp3: The usually help someone with a genuine heart

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If you get a boy and he happens to find out that you have a baby he will reject you very quickly

Int: Boys just refuse or they would want to but they don't want to be responsible?

Resp3: They don't want those burdens though he may love you but he doesn't want to carry that burden

Int: Ok and those boys who have accepted responsible for the pregnancy and now they have a baby, how is he able to cope with such situation?

Resp3: He will just hustle like you, going to wash cars and such like jobs

Int: Mhh

Resp3: That is it he just hustles like the girl

Int: Ok and what haven't we talked about unintended pregnancies, maybe you have remembered something you would like to add?

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok let us talk about abortion, what is the rate of abortion in this community, earlier on you mentioned that it is high (baby making so much noise in the background) is abortion very high here in Viwandani or it is no something that happens often?

Resp3: It is high

Int: Mhh, why do you say it is high?

Resp3: Ok like right now most girls

Int: Mhh

Resp4: They don't want to change, they want to remain girls

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You know when you give birth you will smell milk and so forth and most girls don't like that. They would rather stay like that as is they had never given birth

Int: Mhh

Resp4: But most girls have never discovered that when you abort you get older faster

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When you give birth you get your first born, you go back to your old self but with abortion you get old

Int: Mhh

Resp4: According...maybe you may have a lot of worries, maybe a friend gets a baby and you start wising you had let your baby survive, you would be having fun like your friend

Int: Mhh

Resp4: So thinking a lot can also cause you to grow old

Int: Do you all agree that abortion is high?

Resp4: yes

Int: Do you know of girls or a girl who has had an abortion?

Resp4: Even if you know them we cannot say

Int: You cannot say but you know so and so had an abortion, we don't want names (all laugh)

Resp: Very many have done that

Int: Mhh many

Resp: Yes

Int: And why do they choose to abort? One, you said they don't want to change and look old, isn't it?

Resp4: Yes

Int: What is the other reason that would make a girl want to abort?

Resp5: The boy may deny that the pregnancy is not his

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Or harassment from the parent

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You don't want rumors spreading in the slum

Int: Mhh

Resp1: And such like things

Int: And how do people view abortion here, what is their views  
on abortion is it something they like or not?

Resp5: if a girl decides that she is going to have an abortion  
there is nothing they can about it.

Int: She will do it but we just want to know their views on  
abortion

Resp5: They don't like it

Int: Mhh

Resp5: No one can support that because she knows that she can  
die any time in the process of abortion

Int: Mhh

Resp5: So even when she hears people say that abortion is good,  
she will still fear to do that?

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Some people don't support it but for those who want to do  
that, they will support it.

Int: What types of people don't support abortion?

Resp5: Everyone does not support abortion

Int: And those who support abortion, why do they do it?

Resp5: Because it is an easy way one can terminate a pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And continue your plans in life

Int: Are there others who abort so that they can continue with schooling?

Resp4: Yes, but still even if you abort, you are still a mother

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You are still a parent to a dead baby (others laugh)

Int: Ok are there others who abort because they were raped? Like she is not ready to stay with that child?

Resp4: Yes so that she can forget about that incident otherwise the baby will revive those memories

Int: Mhh

Resp4: She might not end up liking the baby and there are others who beat the children without any cause just because the baby reminds them of the past.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: The moment she see that person she vents all her anger on the child because of the manner in which got the baby

Int: Ok and are there who abort because of being incited by their friends and they don't want to be seen pregnant?

Resp4: Yes

Int: Ok fine, what methods do these girls use when they want to have an abortion? Where do they do it from and how, from what you have heard?

Resp5: I have not seen anyone who has aborted but I heard about what they use

Int: You have not heard of any?

Resp5: No

Int: Anyone who has heard of one, the methods people use to carry out an abortion?

Resp4: These days there is medicine to take

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I also hear that when you take lot of tea leaves, the pregnant ruptures

Int: Mhh

Resp2: Juice that has not been diluted

Int: What quantity will you take?

Resp4: A lot

Int:

Resp2: Concentrated

Int: And what about tea leaves?

Resp2: You make a strong tea and put a lot of tea leaves

Resp4: You put a lot that when you take it burns here (showing)

Int: Like a full packet of tea leaves?

Resp3: Yes, others take aloe vera

Int: Mhh

Resp3: And you take a lot of it or you lick that juice from it

Int: Where do they get that aloe vera?

Resp3: From upcountry

Int: Mhh you are talking of this usual aloe vera?

Resp3: Yes

Int: And you lick it?

Resp3: Yes

Int: So you just lick a little and the pregnancy comes out?

Resp: Yes

Int: What quantity?

Resp: A lot of it

Int: You mentioned pills, where do they get them from what are they called?

Resp4: I don't know. A friend of mine wanted to take me to have an abortion and so I asked her how will I start that. She told me that there are some drugs that I will be given to take and then the pregnancy will terminate. So I told her that since my mother had accepted me, I cannot make that



mistake because she had warned me and told me that if I ever make that mistake and abort, she will also make sure that she kills me. She will look after her grandchild so I didn't abort

Int: Mhh

Resp4: That girl told me that she has used those pills for a long time but they have never harmed her in any way. I told her that you are you and I am a different person from you and who knows, they were agreeable with you that doesn't meant the same will happen to me.

Int: Which hospital was she to take you?

Resp4: Some hospital upcountry

Int: Mhh

Resp4: I don't know it at all

Int: Ok and there are no hospitals here where the girls can do their abortion from?

Resp2: They are there and even chemists can also provide that service

Resp3: Most of these chemists do that that

Int: Are there any particular chemists?

Resp3: No, you just walk into any

Int: Ok and when a girl is thinking of aborting what are usually her thoughts?

Resp4: They are usually fifty, fifty because she can die

Int: Mhh what else?

Resp4: She my try to terminate it and it refuses to come out and  
so she ends up bringing up the child

Int: Mhh and do they think of the costs?

Resp4: Of course, you cannot be charged Sh1,000 for abortion

Int: Mhh how much do they charge?

Resp4: From Sh10,000 and above

Int: Ok fine and after the abortion, you said it is a fifty,  
fifty situation you can die or

Resp4: Make it

Int: Or make it and what are the other consequences of  
abortion?

Resp3: They can be barren in life

Int: What else?

Resp1: Maybe you went to someone who is not qualified, and you  
feel so much

Int: Mhh

Resp3: You can end up dying.

Int: When someone bleeds so much what happens?

Resp1: I hear the doctor will give you some medicine to stop the  
bleeding

Int: What are the other consequences of abortion apart from what we have just discussed?

Resp: Silence

Int: Are there girls who are chased away from home because abortion?

Resp3: If your parents had spent so much money on your education they will feel bad. They can even tell you to go to the father of the baby or go wherever you want

Int: Mhh

Resp3: Or go and start your own school

Int: Mhh

Resp3: They can even tell you to refund all the money you spent in school

Int: Ok and are there others whose boyfriend drop them because of aborting?

Resp3: Yes

Int: Why?

Resp2: He can beat you and even kill you

Int: What for?

Resp1: Because the kid is his

Int: And are there others how feel anxiety because of what they did? Maybe when they see someone else with a baby, do they get stressed?

Resp2: Yes

Int: And when a girl wants to have an abortion who does she tell first? She has already made the decision to have an abortion.

Resp1: She will consult a person who is experienced in abortion

Int: And how will you know that this person has the experience in abortion?

Resp4: You start with fake stories like; when someone wants to abort how does one go about it?

Int: Mhh you ask your friends?

Resp4: yes and you will not miss of them who will fall for that bait

Int: So you ask who?

Resp4: Close friends who share secrets.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You start our story from there.

Int: Who else apart from your closest friend can you talk to?

Resp2: There are some parents who don't want embarrassment and they will help you have an abortion and then you continue with school.

Int: Who else can you talk to; can you talk to your mother?

Resp2: Yes

Int: And why not your father?

All: Ehh! (Chuckles)

Resp5: He will ask you if you were aborted.

Int: So mothers are the ones who support abortion?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And you cannot tell your father something like that?

Int:

Resp4: If you tell your father you mother will tell you that you  
are ruining her marriage.

Int: (All laugh) how will you do that?

Resp4: You are pregnant and your mother is for the idea that you  
have an abortion, and you happen to share it with your  
father you mother will be very angry with you. All the  
time it will now be quarreling

Int: Mhh

Resp2: There are those who have fathers only, their mothers are  
not there, you can tell him

Resp5: You cannot tell him

Int: Mhh

Resp1: There are fathers who are don't cares

Int:

Resp4: Some will not accept to hear that kind of story and deal with you accordingly he can even go and face the boy and beat him up

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Can you just imagine going to face your father that you are pregnant, you will be beaten thoroughly

Int: Is it because of abortion is bad or you are pregnant?

Resp5: You might go to do it and die and you might be his only child

Int: Mhh

Resp5: He can be happy to see the grandchild in case you are the only child he has. You will now have company

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Yes

Int: And, what about your other sisters how will....?

Resp5: There are some who will be happy if you the first one to do that and this being his first grandchild, and let you off the hook but other parents will be like; you are a bad example to your sisters because you will make them follow your bad behavior by getting unintended pregnancies and coming to dump their children here?

Int: What about the church is there anyone you can talk to when you want to abort?

Resp5: First of all the pastor has to pray for the bad spirit to go (all laugh). The pastor is a man of God who has been called and he as a duty to perform. He will first ask you to call your parents then to all of you

Int: Mhh

Resp5: He is the one who will tell them since you were scared of telling your parents

Int: Mhh

Resp5: He will encourage the parents to accept the girl in her condition

Int: Maybe the girl has looked at the situation at hand; she has shared the same with pastor who can also see the situation here is not good. She goes there for advice only.

Resp5: There is no way he will advise you to abort instead he will tell you in case your parents chase you away you do and live with him.

Rsp1: Unless he is pastor mkebe

Int: What is that?

Resp1: Those are fake pastors who are after offering and tithes from ignorant people

Int: Mhh and what about at school, the girl is still at school and she is wondering who she can talk to

Resp5: Biology teacher, she can approach the teacher and ask what happens when one get pregnant and how do you get rid of that? How can one go about it and a teacher who is fully qualified in that subject can be able to tell her the procedure without knowing he is parting with information

Int: Can you talk to someone else? What about the boy responsible for that pregnancy?

Resp5: There are some who are fifty, fifty he can tell you to abort while another one will tell you not to do that he will take care of the pregnancy

Int: Mhh

Resp5: It will depend on the person himself. A boy who has no money and he feels he cannot be able to meet your demands and that of the baby, he will tell you to abort but if he is able he will refuse and even if the parents of the boy insist he will ignore and tell them you are his choice and that is final.

Int: What else have we not talked about abortion that you feel we need to talk about it?

Resp5: how we can eradicate that mentality girls have on abortion

Int: Mhh



Resp5: Something...maybe we get someone who can advise a girl and tell her the risks of abortion or we get those people who support abortion bring experienced doctors to do the job so that the girls are not effected in any way instead of doing it locally

Int: Ok and how can we stop these unintended pregnancies among the young girls? Because you say there are so many girls you know who have been pregnant. What can we do so that girls don't continue having unintended pregnancies?

Resp5: Girls should learn to take care of themselves

Int: in what way?

Resp5: By chilling (abstain)

Int: And if you cannot be able to chill?

Resp5: There are some children you cannot lock in the house and there are also very unruly boys you cannot be advise them.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: If he feels like being called a father hell just have to be called one

Int: Mhh

Resp5: And if a girl wants to get pregnant she will be pregnant

Int: Mhh

Resp5: We cannot say that we reduce the fun, fun will always be there and it has to be enjoyed. How can it be reduced and I am planning to open a club (all chuckle)

Int: You have those plans?

Resp5: Ehh I cannot stop opening because of that, I will be opening one so that I can get money.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: It is true

Int: Ok and do you see these pregnancies cannot be stopped?

Resp5: No it is up to the individual to do it herself, the decision is yours for example if you have ever given birth you know all about family planning and you just say ok, I don't want those drugs, no injections and abstain

Int: Mhh

Resp5: it is up to you to plan your life the way you want it not that other people should plan for you.

Int: Mhh

Resp: Because if a doctor came here and lectured me on family planning, I will not go for any of them I will abstain but family planning...no

Int: So family planning cannot help prevent unwanted pregnancies?

Resp5: No telling girls to use family planning is telling them to continue being prostitutes

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Because the girl will reason that she has the pills with her

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Sometimes these pills are not so helpful you hear they have refused to adjust to the body or they might bring some the new methods but if you were not able to adjust to the first method then

Int: What do you mean adjusting to the body?

Resp5: There are some drugs when you take them you kind of have side effects and, or she may be on the pill and because of your busy schedule you happen to miss to take, when you do that, you might be a victim and get pregnant that day. So it is not that it can be hundred percent a good method, therefore, whether family planning methods are there or not, girls will continue getting pregnant.

Int: Ok and what can the government do to help?

Resp3: Nothing

Int: The government cannot do anything to help the situation?

Resp2: No

Int: And what about media like TV, radio and the like?

Resp4: They have tried because they bring that advertisement on the C-Word for people to know that there are contraceptives but if they had been helpful many girls would not be getting pregnant at all.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: These days there is nothing that is being advertised that is useful at all like the cigarette companies they say the when you smoke it will cause something,

Int: Health hazard to your life

Resp5: But the companies are still making them and they cannot stop making them because they will affect people. Right now there is no way you can say that I will not buy these alcoholics because they will cause sclerosis there is nothing like, people will still buy and they will still drink.

Int:

Resp4: People have never stopped taking changáa and yet they watch on TV how it is prepared.

Int: Mhh so there is nothing that can be done?

Resp4: That is a personal decision, you stand firm and say I will not do this and that. By the way there are some girls who just believe that they cannot get babies right now but in future they would like to have. For example a

girl may decide that I will only have one child and then goes ahead and closes the womb, you see that is the end of it. You cannot have other children in case you wanted to reverse the situation therefore what I am saying is that all these things are based individual decision what you have set your mind to do is what you will do.

Int: Ok to finish of the discussion what are doing to avoid any unintended pregnancy? Whether you have a baby or not, there must be something you are doing to avoid being pregnant

Resp5: Abstain

Resp4: Abstain because I want to make sure that this one goes to school first and reaches class eight before I can think of getting another one

Int: Class eight, isn't that far?

Resp4: No, if you are determined, there is nothing difficult

Int:

Resp5: Even if you stay with your parents and cut off links like going to visit the father of the child alone because those are the things that bring about those pregnancies

Int: What are you doing R3?

Resp3: I have not done anything

Int: Which method are you using to prevent unintended pregnancy?

Resp3: Family planning and I can also decide that I will not get another boyfriend and take care of my child. I can stay alone

Int: R2

Resp2: Nothing

Int: You have never been pregnant before?

Resp2: No

Int: How have you been able to maintain yourself from getting pregnant?

Resp2: (laughing)

Int: Stop laughing this is important, you answer will help someone in this group

Resp2: (unintelligible)

Int: Why are you feeling shy, they have told us what they use, others have told us they are abstaining, other are using family planning, others will just stay at home and chill from there and what are you doing to prevent pregnancy?

Resp2: I am using the calendar method

Int: Ok

Resp2: Yes

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Abstain until my child reaches form one (others laugh)  
then I can think of what do to

Int: That is a very high target. Class eight, form one, those  
are many days. If you remember, [name] you said there is  
no accidental pregnancy. Do you have a baby?

Resp5: yes

Int: Ok you have a baby, you and you, if I may ask, did you  
want that pregnancy?

Resp1: No, I didn't plan for it

Int:

Resp2: I didn't plan for it

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I was still in school

Int: Had you planed for it?

Resp4: I cannot advise anyone about calendar method, (all laugh)

Int: Mhh

Resp4: I was counting those days

Int: Mhh

Resp4: But things didn't work out well. I would get my period  
this month, next month, nothing

Int: Mhh

Resp4: Now I didn't know if you go counting days you will mess  
yourself

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If it is a must arrange with your boyfriend so that you know what to do

Int: Oh, so the calendar method is what let you down?

Resp3: Yes

Int: You have heard her views, how did you get yourself there?

Resp4: That business of counting day does not work because I found myself pregnant

Int: How long had you used that method?

Resp3: From form one to form three when I conceived

Int: Mhh ok you had counted well the days as expected?

Resp3: Yes, I was counting the days but not using anything else

Int: How long had you used that method?

Resp4: From class eight to form three

Int: It was really sympathetic with you

Resp4: yes

Int: Ok and you?

Resp1: I used the same method

Int: Then what happened?

Resp1: I missed my periods that month so counting became a problem for me

Int: Why did you choose that method? Was it the best method you thought of at that time?



Resp1: Yes

Int: R5 which method did you use?

Resp5: My case was different I just used to have fun and I cannot say that it was an accident because I loved fun so much

Int: Mhh

Resp5: Even the father of my baby is not from here, he is from Ngong

Int: What were you using to prevent pregnancy?

Resp5: You won't believe this but I used to abstain all this time and you would not have found me in a boy's house

Int: Mhh so you had just abstained and how did you get pregnant?

Resp5: I was just having fun

Int: Were you raped?

Resp5: No, I just drunk that day and I went there on my own free will

Int: So did your boyfriend take advantage of the situation or you agreed?

Resp5: We were drunk

Int: Just that once?

Resp5: Yes

Int: The first time you were having sex and you got pregnant?

Resp5: Yes

Int: And you got pregnant?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Therefore we have heard about counting days. And [name] why do you feel it was not an accident and yet you had not planned to get pregnant?

Resp5: Everyone knows when a boy is drunk he can do anything and I had refused and avoided it I would not be pregnant but you see I went there myself and I cannot blame myself or anyone else. I had the knowledge

Int: Now for them who were counting days would you say it was an accident or not?

Resp5: I don't know how to count those things

Int: Mhh

Resp5: it is not an accident

Int: it is not an accident?

Resp5: No

Int: Why, you had organized yourself but by bad luck thinks did go well.

Resp5: You cannot keep having that mentality it is an accident because you will be looking at the baby and saying it is an accident and yet it is not an accident

Int: is it an unwanted pregnancy or what do you call it?

Resp5: It was unwanted but not an accident

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You just take yourself there, you count your days, you miss you periods, you are aware of it but still you just take yourself there. You already know things are not good but you still go.

Int: So it is a wanted pregnancy? Was it the same for you and R1 and R3?

Resp5: Yes

Int: it is something you were used to, you miss it comes back and so forth?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Mhh ok and by the time you were counting the calendar did you know there were other methods to prevent pregnancy or you were taught, now that you were sexually active were you taught by parents or at school?

Resp5: We were taught but when you taste honey, (all laugh)

Int: Ok that is fine, we are very grateful so much I don't know what your plans are whether to go back to school or what but whatever your plans, we wish you well. [Name] are you in school because you don't have a baby?

Resp2: No

Int: Why

Resp2: I just dropped out

Int: Without any reason?

Resp2: No

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I didn't want that school and my mother insisted that I  
have to go to that school

Int: Mhh

Resp2: I just refused and stayed behind

Int: So what are you doing, at least they are looking after  
babies, and you

Resp2: Mhh?

Int: What are you currently doing?

Resp2: I am working

Int: Oh you are working

Resp2: Yes

Int: Ok and why didn't you want that school?

Resp2: It is in Ukambani and I didn't want that side

Int: You want a school in town

Resp2: A school with fun

Int: Oh that this is fine. Anyway we are very grateful. We are  
through with the discussion

**130209 001 FGD BOYS 15 - 17 years**

PROJECT STEP UP

FGD BOYS

DATE 10-02-2013

VENUE VIWANDANI

MODERATOR

NOTE TAKER

TRANSCRIBER T1

Int: Welcome boys in this session; let's start by the problems you under go, what challenges do you undergo? Challenges or problems you boys face in this community, let us start from here

Resp: Let us start from there

Int: No let us start from here (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok, let us start with anyone, let us start.

Resp: Problems

Int: The problems that you face or you don't have problems here?

Resp5: School fees problems,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: you know primary school fees is slightly easier and parents can pay,

Int: Mhh

Res5: but secondary fees, you may find a student has performed well in school and maybe he was promised scholarship in school but he is not given because he missed the targeted marks by some very few points, and back at home the parent is not able to pay school for him.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: So that is one of the challenges

Int: Ok

Resp5: you find that a student drops out of school though he has been performing well...

Int: Ok, let hear from another person?

Resp2: You know, somebody can perform poorly but it is not his wish, and he meets his friends in the slums and he joins bad company to do bad things.

Int: What are those bad things? (Laughter from the background)

Resp2: That is to (unintelligible) and being taught other things

Int: Mhh

Resp2: And some advices but on average

Int: Such boys offer what kind of advice?

Resp2: What kind of advice do they offer?

Res: Like when they are together, you would think that they are.... (Gap) it is not good

Int: Ok

Int2: What are these bad behaviors?

Resp2: That is to say...

Int: What is this that is not good?

Resp2: (crosstalk) your friend can tell you to accompany him and when you refuse he tells you that you are not his friend and yet you know very well that you are best of friends

Int: Mhh

Resp2: There is no need to part ways and so you follow him

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You go and steal with him

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You smoke bhang, and many other things whereby you end up in corners where you meet a lady and at that time you are under the influence of bang,

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The only thing you now see is the girl

Resp1: You just want to have her

Resp2: Have sex with her

Int: (Laughter) you must have sex with her

Resp2: yes (Laughter)

Int: Another person? From this corner, it is very quiet, let talk?

Resp4: Mostly sometimes you can be angered when you parent tells you that he is sending you to school to learn and so you work hard. You can perform well in school and your parent he fails to take you to school, because there is no school fee.

Int: What about on the side of health? What challenges do you face here? Any challenges?

Resp5: We don't balance the diet.

Int: Why don't you balance your diet?

Resp5: There is no enough money.

Int: Ok...

Resp5: We just get satisfied with what you get.

Int: Ok that is on the side of food.

Resp5: This place is full of wastes so it smells; you can get sick and suffer from diseases typhoid and (unintelligible) and lots garbage,

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You can get sick because of those.....and by the way you also get breathing problems

Int: Mhh

Resp5: because of the smoke from the chemicals

Int: Ok and what about security challenges? Things like crime?

Resp: Challenge or?



Int: Yes challenges that you face here; security challenges are like which ones?

Resp3: You can be arrested when you are found on the road, maybe you are two or many boys walking along the road you can be arrested

Int: By whom, who will arrest you?

Res4: The police men. Where are you from when they ask you (crosstalk) When they get the two of you or many of you maybe you are not discussing any bad things and you will be taken to the police post.(crosstalk)

Int: You are arrested and taken to the post.

All: Yes

Int: You are arrested by police?

Resp6: Yes, when they find you standing, they say that you are planning to go and steal.

Int: Ok

Resp6: They arrest you without committing any crime; they arrest you by false pretense that you have stolen something.

Int: What do they do to you when they take you to post?

Resp6: They beat you, saying that you have stolen. If you say you don't know about crime they squeeze your scrotum until you say who stole.

Int: Ok

Resp6: You know if they squeeze your scrotum you will say, and if you say somebody you will also be in problem when he realizes that you are the one who said his name.

Int: So you are forced to say somebody?

Resp6: Yes, if you say you don't know they will force you until you say.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Even if you don't know you will be forced to say your brother, so he is beaten.

Int: Ok, so this has happened for how long?

Resp5: It has happened for a long time.

Int: What about money? Do they ask for money?

Resp6: Yes, they even patrol in the bar, so the cashier working at the bar will go out and give them money.

Int: What about you boys are you also asked for money?

Resp6: Yes, you know when you are arrested and taken to the police post your parent must be called and he will have to pay before you are freed.

Int: Ok

Resp6: They can even arrest an adult and order him to remove two shillings in the pocket, when he removes one hundred shillings they take it and tell him that there is no balance. If you tell them that you don't have money they

take you to the post and maybe your children have not eaten supper.

Int: Ok, I want us to talk about unwanted pregnancy? What challenges do you face with unwanted pregnancies?

Resp7: They say if a child cries a razorblade give him.

Int: Do the girl ask for it or you look for them?

Resp7: You know a girl can come and she sits next to you and place her legs on yours.

Int: He alerts you?

Resp7: Yes, or she sends you a message.

Resp4: Maybe you are watching movie at late hours and it is about porno, and a girl is there.

Int: They show porn movies?

Resp1: Yes, but late hours and around 11:00pm.

Int: So boys like you know and go to watch?

Resp1: Not all of us but friends.

Int: So you were saying something

Resp1: When you watch then you feel nice and start thinking about it, and there is a girl there you will each other and also hear her alerting you.

Int: That girl maybe a stranger?

Resp1: Yes, or you maybe knowing her.

Int: Ok

Resp1: Not only in video shows, but even on the cell phone you can have a memory card with porn movies and you hide so that nobody can see it. The girl can ask you to give her the phone and when she is watching you also join her you will both feel for each other and do it.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Again you can find yourself with older boys than you and they force you to do it.

Int: You forced by some people to do?

Resp1: That is what I heard?

Resp4: That happens and many people are raped.

Int: Who rape them?

Resp4: Thieves and even boys at night.

Int: Ok

Resp5: It happens like in funeral gathering, in the slums they always go up to midnight and by that time parents will have gone to sleep while the boys are out and there is music playing, you dance with girls as you talk you feel interested with the girl. So you will start talking about those things and you find yourself in the act and when you do it that's all.

Int: After getting involved with those things you always face which challenges?

Resp6: You know you will not want to be known that you are responsible and again you don't want her. You will be left stranded on what to do, and the lady is insisting that the baby she is carrying is yours and but you will deny.

Int: Ok

Resp6: So it will force you to advise her to go and do abortion, because she is still going to school

Int: Why do you disown her?

Resp6: How will I know that it is mine and maybe she has been doing sex with many people? Ladies cannot be trusted.

Int: Ok

Resp6: You may have spent a night with her and you used condom, and she went to another bad friend who never used condom and she got pregnant and the boy disowned her. Then she decides to come to you when she thought that you also did it with her.

Resp5: Can you agree?

Int: How does this thing affect school?

Resp4: She will drop out of school, and go to street life, when she goes back home her father will ask her why she did abortion.

Int: Ok

Resp: Not only pregnancy some can get diseases which will make her not continue with school.

Int: Which diseases?

Resp1: Diseases like STIs or even HIV

Int: How does the challenges boys face differ from the girls challenges? For example who steal from people by suffocating them?

Resp: Mhh

Int: Challenges that boys face and girls face?

Resp4: The boys are arrested at very high rate; many people who are arrested are boys.

Int: By police? Why?

Resp1: Because many thieves are boys.

Int: Ok

Resp1: Many boys are the ones who rape girls, there is no way a boy can go to the post and report that he has been raped. In many cases boy's rape girls, so boys are in problems because a girl can go and report you that you raped her and maybe she got pregnant for another boy.

Int: If we talk about sexual relationships, for example there is man to men relationships and lady to lady it is called what?

Resp2: Homosexuality and lesbianism.

Int: There is also adult and girls relationship, and boy and girl relationship. Which kind of relationship is common here?

Resp2: A boy and a girl relationship.

Int: There is no boy and boy relationship?

Resp2: That one is in town.

Int: Where in town?

Resp3: In Koinange street, you will relate with whoever you find there.

Int: So I want us to expand on the unintended pregnancies and abortion? Is something that happens a lot?

Resp4: It is something that happens a lot, because even last week there was a lady who went to do abortion and died.

Int: Then she was taken where?

Resp4: To the mortuary.

Int: Ok, where did she do it?

Resp4: Just here, you know when they go to do it they don't go to the government hospitals. They go to private hospitals because they can be arrested if they go to government hospitals.

Int: Where is that hospital?

Resp4: It is here, and they pay a lot of money to be given medicine for abortion.

Int: It is which medicine?

Resp5: Like for her case it was injections.

Int: Where exactly did she go?

Resp5: In a certain hospital.

Int: You also know the hospital? Or only girls know it?

Resp5: Only girls know the hospital.

Int: Ok, what makes the girl to do abortion why can't she just give birth to the baby?

Resp6: When the girl gets pregnant and maybe the boy responsible is still going to school and she has been sent away from her home by the parents.

Int: What else can cause?

Resp6: Some do not abort, they agree among the parents that they will be helping the girl while staying with her parents, they agree with the mother of the girl to stay with her daughter and the new born baby for at least one year and when the boy completes school he will marry the girl. So that is an agreement between three people.

Int: Mhh

Resp5: There can be a girl without parents and maybe she is staying with her aunt and she becomes pregnant then she is sent away with her aunt, she will decide to do abortion and maybe she dies.



Int: Mhh

Resp5: I girl can be bright in school and she may have got pregnant by bad luck, she can do abortion for her to go back to school.

Int: What can cause a girl to get the unwanted pregnancies?

Resp4: Money, the parents can be poor and she wants things like clothes this can make her go to Koinange Street and start selling her body to get money for usage.

Int: Ohh

Resp4: Pressure from her friends, her friends may have experience on abortion; they can teach her the process what medicine to use to do abortion and encourage her that nothing will happen, so there is also peer pressure.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: If a girl's family is poor and the mother is not looking after her well she just encourage her to look for money through that way, this can make her get pregnant.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: There is a stage that reaches when you like that thing very much and a girl cannot control her body, she may get pregnant.

Int: There is also contraceptives do you use them or you shy from buying them? Can they cause pregnancies maybe if there is no access? Who can buy at the shop?

Resp3: They shy from buying them from the shop.

Int: Who can go to the shop to buy condom?

Resp3: There those who send friends.

Int: So you send your friends?

Resp2: There those who send each other not us.

Int: Ok

Resp2: I can shy, but I can send a friend to go and buy for me.

Int: Ok

Resp2: When he goes to buy the all village will talk about it, how you have a girlfriend that you even slept with her yesterday.

Int: Mhh

Resp2: The girls don't like using it, I hear it is because the pill has a metal inside so when she swallows it, it can interfere with her stomach then she will not be able to get pregnant later and give birth.

Int: Where do you get all that information?

Resp1: When there is seminar we are invited and taught.

Int: Ok

Resp1: You can also hear women gossiping about it.

Int: So that is where you get information? What about in school?

Resp3: Yes, only girls are taught, they are called separately and taught.

Int: Why aren't you taught?

Resp3: Because we are clever. (Laughter)

Int: Mhh

Resp4: You know a boy cannot be taught not to do something, because often they are the ones who seduce girls.

Int: Mhh

Resp4: They don't teach boys because they can control themselves but the girls can't, we are not taught.

Int:

Resp3: Even boys are taught, but girls are taught more.

Int: Let's listen to him?

Resp3: The girls are the ones who entice boys?

Int: How do they entice men?

Resp2: Because of how they dress, even if you are old she will still entice you according to how she dresses.

Int: How do the boys feel when they make a girl pregnant?

Resp2: I can say they feel nice, maybe the girl he impregnated was boasting in the village and he managed to convince her and make her pregnant.

Int: Hmm

Resp7: Some will feel nice because he is now a father.

Int: Ok

Resp7: You know some people say that if you break a girl's virginity is something good?

Int: Why?

Resp7: Because you are the first person to sleep with the girl.

Int: What does the community say about the boy who has impregnated the girl?

Resp5: They gossip by saying that if even his mother cannot take care of him how will he take care of his child. That is the challenge that a boy will face, he will be forced to move to another place.

Int: He will move to where?

Resp5: To an area that he is not known.

Int: Ok

Resp5: If you meet the mother of the girl she will say how you are a bad boy and how you impregnated her daughter and abandoned her. So they will spoil your reputation and that will make you be hated in the village that if you seduce another lady she runs away from you.

Int: What can make a girl to want to be pregnant? Or want that thing?

Resp1: Peer pressure, because her age mates have given birth she also would like to be like them.

Int: Another reason?

Resp2: I girl can see a boy coming from a rich family and maybe they are poor, that will make her work hard to make sure that she starts relationship with that boy and get pregnant for him knowing she will be married after giving birth.

Int: Ok

Resp3: A girl can be from a poor family then they arrange with her mother how she will be in a relationship with a boy from a rich family, and then she gets pregnant for him, then her mother will go to the father of the boy and insist that the boy must marry her daughter because he impregnated her. So in such a situation it will force the girl to get pregnant.

Int: Ok

Resp3: You can also watch some movies on Television and go to try.

Int: What movies on the television?

Resp4: Like the pornographic movies and when you try with your girlfriend she becomes pregnant.

Int: What else can make a girl want to be pregnant?

Resp4: Maybe she has decided to use it to do job.

Int: Do job how?

Resp5: By prostitution and she becomes pregnant.

Int: Ok

Resp5: She can use it to create quarrels between two families, maybe the girl was impregnated with another person then her parents go to quarrel the other family that there son raped her daughter and the problem continues.

Int: How do the girls cope with unintended pregnancies?

Resp6: She will be stressed because she never intended to get pregnant, how she will get the clothes for the baby and also her mother has not known, and when she knows it will be a problem. So she will decide to kill herself.

Int: Why does she decide to kill herself?

Resp6: Because nobody wants her and how people are talking about her pregnancies.

Int: Are there girls who give out the babies?

Resp5: Yes, some give out and some throw away.

Int: Why does one give out and one throws away. What makes the difference why can't they all give out?

Resp5: At times they sell that thing, she sells to his boyfriend.

Int: Ok

Resp5: That is prostitution.

Int: If a girl comes to you and tell you that you are responsible for her pregnancy?

Resp4: You will deny, and ask her how you gave her?

Int: Why

Resp4: I have a question, if you have slept with the girl?

Int: Yes, the pregnancy is yours? You know it is yours?

Resp4: I will run away, I will tell her to go and come back next week so that we discuss about it. When she comes back I will have escaped. (Laughter)

Int: Ok

Resp4: I will accept if the pregnancy is mine, because the family may be rich and go to perform a DNA test and that will definitely reveal that you are the father, so they can arrest you.

Int: OK

Resp4: I will escape with her, I will tell her that if am responsible for the pregnancy she should follow me to another place.

Int: Ok, which methods are used when doing abortion?

Resp4: I don't know.

Int: Even one?

Resp4: Yes, I just hear that people always do abortion but I don't know the methods they use.

Int: Ok, we will reach there. What challenges do the young girls face when they get pregnant in the community?

All: Mhh

Int: What do people say about the young girl?

Resp: That she is young and started having sex early.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Maybe in a family, the son died because of Gonorrhea and a girl also died in the same manner, so people will say that this family people die in that manner so she will also die. That is a challenge she can face.

Int: What do you think can be done in this community to reduce the rate of unintended pregnancies in this area? Let's hear many opinions.

Resp6: if I am the leader in this community I can organize for a seminar for the youths and get facilitators for the girls and facilitators for boys to teach them what they have gone through and how they can leave with challenges, and with that there are those who will follow the advice and change their lifestyle, if they were doing prostitution they will stop.

Int: OK

Resp4: If there is someone who can promise to pay school fees for a lady who come from a poor family and dropped out of school, she will feel nice and go back to school.



Resp5: The parents should also be advised on how they can take good care of their children not to give them permission without knowing where they are going. A girl can cheat her mother that she is going to sleep but she is going to meet boyfriends, so parents should be advised on how to take care of their children.

Resp4: Parents should also be alert when children are asking for permission to go and spend night with her friends; they should not allow them because they use that time to meet their friends because she may be going on an occasion for entertainment.

Int: What can be done to make sure that girls can go for safe abortion or access contraceptives easily without problems?

Resp5: They can set up centers like VCT where you can access them without asking for them or somebody knowing what you have gone there to do.

Int: Yes

Resp4: There can be a room in VCT centers where you can talk privately with an officer there who can advise you.

Int: What do you boys do to avoid impregnating girls?

Resp5: I use condom.

Int: Ok you use condom and do you both use condom?

Resp5: No, I abstain.

Int: Ok, you abstain and you? What impregnating girls?

Resp4: I use condom.

Int: Ok, you use condom.

Resp1: When it reaches there you will be forced to control yourself.

Int: Ok

Resp1: You be faithful.

Int: Ok, anything that you can add on that issue of pregnancy?

I want us to talk about abortion?

Resp2: No.

Int: Ok, now I want us to talk about abortion even though we have talked about it? Is it something common here in the community?

Resp2: Yes, majority of youths are the ones who gate pregnant much, so they go to do abortion so that they can go back to school.

Resp3: The parents can also tell you to go and do abortion, for instance a girl may have been doing abortion without the parents knowing but they just hear, so when she becomes pregnant and the parents knows she will be told to do what she always do while she is pregnant.

Int: ok

Resp3: You may have been raped and got pregnant you will be forced to do abortion.

Int: Ok, rape.

Resp4: You can shy because your friends are laughing at you, this can make you do abortion.

Int: Ok, which challenges does a girl face when she decides to do abortion?

Resp4: She will be stressed because she doesn't know the outcome of abortion because she might die or survive.

Int: Ok

Resp4: If she aborts the spirit of the child disturbs her.

Int: OK

Resp4: She can abort and God may not give her a child later when she wants a child, so she will be forced to carry the baby.

Int: Ok

Resp5: She may want to do abortion and she doesn't have money, so she will go to steal and she gets arrested that can cause problems to the parents.

Int: When a girl wants to do abortion, who does she consults first?

Resp4: In many cases a girl cannot tell her mother that she wants to do abortion, she does it privately.

Int: Ok

Resp6: She will be assisted by friends.

Int: Ok

Resp6: She can be sent away from home by her parents.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Even if she is sent away she won't go to upcountry and say that she has been sent away because of abortion

Int: Let's hear about stories of girls doing abortion? What are the consequences of doing abortion? What can be done to prevent situations of a girl being denied by boys when pregnant? What can be done to prevent abortion? Let's listen to the opinion?

Resp3: Boys should accept when they impregnate a girl.

Resp2: I think when it comes to abortion it should be free because many people do not work.

Int: Ok

Resp1: I can say that the government should enforce the law of No abortion in churches, mosques and everywhere because it is a crime.

Resp3: Many people do not go to government hospitals when they want to do abortion.

Resp1: You can abort if your life is in danger, the government has allowed that.

Int: Where do you get such information?

Resp2: In the news.

Int: Ok in the news, what did you want to say?

Resp5: When we say there is no abortion you will find girl giving birth and putting the child on a polythene paper and throws in the toilet or you will find it with wastes.

Int: Ok

Resp5: I can say abortion should be legalized because there is no need of giving birth to a child and throwing the baby, because the pregnancy has been seen.

Int: Ok, let's hear from him?

Resp6: The government has set up orphanages, there is no need of doing abortion and when you get married you will not be able to give birth, so it is better to give birth and take the child there, then you can pretend and go to adopt the child and you know that he belongs to you.

Int: Any other thing? We are finishing, we have talked about what the government can do? What can the family do?

Resp6: They should encourage the girl by telling her to give birth, and they will help her raise the baby in the same way they raised her.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Some families tell the girl to do abortion before the pregnancy is seen and when the girl refuses they will

disagree with her mother, and the family will be ashamed because people will know what they intended.

Int: What can the media do? Like television, newspaper, radio?

Resp5: If a girl wants to do abortion, it should be announced that they go to a certain place until she gives birth.

Resp4: The media has announced that on Television and printed on newspaper that abortion is a crime.

Int: They have announced but it is like it has not reached some people because they are still doing it?

Resp5: I can oppose your point because the remote areas you are saying people have not heard about it are places that abortion do not happen much. They happen in areas where people are enlightened.

Int: Ok

Resp4: People are also ignorant, for instance if this is your area and you put a warning "that do not urinate here" they will still urinate. (Laughter)

Int: That is another point, maybe if you have something to add up, thank you because we have had a very lively debate. I want to hear your final remarks.

Resp3: Final remarks, you can find somebody who came from upcountry and she knows nothing, but after sometime she

gets friends and teaches her new things after some days  
she gets pregnant and that is something we have seen.

Int: Let's hear that story?

Resp3: I have finished. (Laughter)

Int: Or it is a long story?

Resp3: Yes I can't complete it now.

Int: Let's listen to him while you think about yours.

Resp2: you can find a girl who has come from upcountry, then after  
one month she is introduced to other friends, and the  
friends were always going to clubs to entertain themselves  
and she joins them, when they are in a club they take some  
drinks and you know you will have to pay for the drink.  
That is where life changes now.

Int: You have rebooted? Ok, let's listen to this story?  
(Laughter)

Resp2: There is a girl who came to school in first term what was  
her name?.....and after sometime she got introduced  
to other girls in school and joined girls who are bad, they  
were staying at Kingi, but she was taken to stroll this  
side of Paraand in third term she got pregnant and was  
asked who is responsible for the pregnancy then she refused  
to say, after sometime she dropped out of school. Then she  
went to her friends who took her to that boy so that they

can inform that boy that he is responsible for her pregnancy, but the girls refused and told her that they don't know what she is talking about because they don't know that boy and that they never took her there. But she never aborted the child she gave birth.

Int: Where is the child now?

Resp2: It was three years ago.

Int: So she is within but you don't know where she is?

Resp2: Yes

Int: Let's hear another story,

Resp: Silence

Int: Otherwise thank you for your answers.

**130209 001 FGD BOYS 15 - 17 years**

PROJECT STEP UP

FGD BOYS

DATE 10-02-2013

VENUE VIWANDANI

MODERATOR

NOTE TAKER

TRANSCRIBER T1



Int: Welcome very much, what challenges do you boys face here?

We can start from anywhere?

Resp2: There is no freedom, and getting a job is difficult.

Int: Ok

Resp2: The name of our area is also bad.

Int: The name of the area?

Resp1: Yes, because if you are found at Donholm and asked where you come from, if you say LungaLunga you will be prosecuted. The name is a suspect, because it is LungaLunga, you will just be prosecuted.

Int: What other challenge do you experience?

Resp3: Another challenge that boys experience is that there is no capability of advancing in life after completing high school and you come back to the estate, you can find that you have passed and you get a letter but you are not able to get money .So you will just remain in the estate as you look for money

Int: Any other, what about security issues?

Resp3: Security is not bad for boys, even though if the adults find you relaxing somewhere they will say that you are waiting for the time to rob. When a father is communicating on cellphone and he sees you he will put it in the pocket fearing that you might rob him

Int: Why do you think they have that perception?

Resp2: Because we are jobless and idle, you know the way you see us is not the same way someone else will see us.

Int: What about health issues?

Resp8: You have to adapt once you are born here.

Int: Ok, what problems do you experience that you have to adapt to.

Int: What challenges do you face in schooling?

Resp8: When they said that education is free it was not true because they still ask for two hundred shillings for food. I wonder whether the two hundred shillings is for government or theirs.

Int: So in government schools they still ask for money?

Resp1: Yes, you know government cannot provide everything for you, some things you also have to think and do by yourself once someone has provided you with something. But school issue is fine; the only problem is that after completing school you must have money to get a job, so it is must that you look for money to go to school then after completing school you also look for money to get a job, that is the problem.

Int: What about girls doing abortion? (Laughter from the background) When they are still young, have witnessed?

Resp3: That is a serious issue; you will find that when a young girl completes school and she get involved with people like us. (Laughter from the background) You know if you are shown you will not hesitate.

Int: Ok, they will want to relate with adults and if you are shown you don't hesitate? Do you agree with that? (Laughter from the background)

Resp: Yes

Int: Let's hear from others?

Resp4: You know when she shows interest, you will also like to play safe.

Int: A girl or the boy

Resp4: The boy, you white men brought something called Trust Condom, so there is no way will do sex with her and make her pregnant.

Resp2: I don't agree with him.

Int: You don't agree, what do you say?

Resp2: There is no time and you know the young girl does not know about CD. They say that if you do sex with condom is not sweet and you can't eat a sweet with a paper. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Where did you hear that?

Rasp2: People say that in the estate, that is the slogan.

Int: That is the slogan?

Resp2: You know the young girl will want to play sex without condom, but I will tell her to play safe with CD because if she plays without she get pregnant.

Int: Let's hear from him?

Resp4: Someone can get that thing and impregnate her, and maybe I had done sex with her but it was safe, she can claim that I am responsible for the pregnancy, and I won't deny because going for the tests will still require money. So if you are in a relationship with a girl you will be in problem.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Let me tell you about condom, you know I cannot do sex with a beautiful girl using a condom, but if I get a girl that is not beautiful it is a must to use condom. If she is a beautiful girl I just do sex without condom, because you will see a girl to be very beautiful and say I just to do it (cross talk, laughter from the background)

Int: What do others say?

Resp6: If you do say without condom, point one, you can get STI diseases

Int: Ok

Resp6: Let me correct you a bit, you know here we are not talking things that are on the books, but things happening in the

slums. (Cross talk) When going for an interview you don't think of failing you, instead you just think of passing.

Resp: I can challenge his argument?

Resp7: Listen first (Laughter from the background)

Int: There is something he has mentioned that we will build on; he has talked of challenges like STDs, ST Is and things like that. What were you saying?

Resp7: I am saying what happens here not stories in books, that if I do sex I will get gonorrhea there is nothing like that...  
Laughter from the background.....so if I get a girl I will do sex with her then I tell my colleague to take her.

Int: You hand over?

Resp7: Yes, that is what happens

Int: ok

Resp7: That is why you him say that it not about books, because even if you had that condom you will not read the instructions on what to do, you will just put it on and after two minutes it will burst.

Res4: It will delay you and there is no time.

Res6: That time of reading instructions.

Int: Ok

Resp6: You know that is serious because if one enters there in a hurry and another person enters in hurry not knowing the

girl has which disease, so we are not brought up with that condom

Int: Mhh

Resp5: (unintelligible) it is with many people, you see

Int: Mhh

Resp5: You see he will go there in a hurry, another goes there and you don't know what diseases he is having, he is my best friend but I don't him that well

Int: Mhh

Resp5: We were brought up in different environment though we live in the same place (unintelligible)

Int: Mhh

Resp4: When you are presented with such form, you are like what now, because for you to start having sex with a girl you have to know her very well.

Int: You are used to her?

Resp4: Yes (unintelligible, crosstalk) how many girls has she slept with before she now feels like that?

Resp2: Even if it is your first time, she cannot tell you that you are the second one

Int: Mhh

Resp2: You are not the one who removed her virginity though she might lie to you that she is the second one but the chain is long, you might be a hundred and in number.

Resp5: You just can just be part of it but you are not the one who broke her virginity

Resp8: Even me when I have a girl, I will pretend that you don't know these things, you behave like a dunderhead who knows nothing at all.

Int: If you pretend not to know anything does it have effect?

Resp3: You pretend to be God fearing but... (Laughter from the background) after testing it ones you now become stubborn.

Int: if I may ask another question, you boys face challenges and also girls but they are different. What challenges do you face say in livelihood, school, crime and health that we have talked of, which can you say is for boys and for girls? Let us start from here as we continue.

Resp2: Boys face crime.

Int: Crime

Resp2: Yes, I may be here and I don't have money in the pocket, and am suppose to eat at night or maybe we can stroll with my girlfriend and she asks me to buy for her something and I don't have money, it will force me to look for money in another way so that she feels that she came to visit me, if

I don't have a job I will get in crime. You know girls know that we are the breadwinners and if you go to look for a job and maybe you have qualification, you won't get, because nowadays for you to get a job you must know somebody. You know if I come to you and you know me you will employ me without qualification, but if I have qualification and you don't know me maybe you will refuse.

Int: Ok, you agree with that?

All: Yes

Int: When it comes to education which challenges to boys and girls face?

Resp1: If a girl is pregnant she will have to drop out of school

Resp2: So when girls are pregnant they don't go to school?

Int: Yes

Resp2: Can I ask him a question?

Int: Yes

Resp2: How will they get pregnant?

Res: (Cross talk, unintelligible)

Int: You know when a girl is still young you will despise her and her colleagues also have peer pressure so when she reach class four, then five, six and seven, you start salivating and do sex with her when reaching class eight you have already ruined her life.



Int: So you observe them early?

Resp: Yes

Int: So we want to discuss about unintended pregnancies in deep,  
is it something that happens here in slums very much?

Yes3: Yes

Int: What factors contribute to girls getting pregnant while they  
are still young?

Resp3: You know the parents can warn the daughter that if she finds  
her standing with a boy she will be punished, so the girl  
will divert and get in relationship with another boy and she  
gets pregnant and because her mother had suspected me I will  
be held responsible.

Int: Ok

Resp3: You know they also influence each other, a girl can tell her  
colleague how she had good time with a certain boy, so this  
girl will also go to do sex and maybe the other girl was  
doing it safe, so she will end up getting pregnant.

Int: Do you agree with that?

All: Yes

Int: You mean a girl can come and sleep with you because her  
friend told her that you are good?

All: Yes

Int: Is it so?

Resp4:Yes..... Maybe you bought for her lipstick and oil for her hair.

Int: Ok, oil for her hair, let's talk about family a bit what do say about rape here?

Resp4:It has taken long since I had about it.

Resp5:Me too.

Resp3:Maybe people do not say.

Resp6:Maybe it happens in Kawagware (Laughter from the background)

Int: Why Kawagware and not here?

Resp4:You know girls are old here, if you sleep with her is like you have helped her? (Laughter from the background) They are used to it.

Int: It is a normal routine?

Resp4:Yes (Laughter from the background)

Int: What makes boys and girls stop using contraceptives and yet it is available?

Resp5:If a girl is beautiful you can't sleep with her using a condom. (Laughter from the background)

Resp6:You know if you go to pick the free ones, they tell you to go and pick..... (Unintelligible)

Int: What do you say?

Resp6:You see he has said that he can't sleep with a beautiful girl-using condom; you know that is just an attitude.

Int: So you are telling me that if a girl is beautiful then everything that she has is beautiful?

(Laughter from the background)

Resp: (Cross talk)

Int: Let's listen to him, why do you stick to that?

Resp6: It is just the way I told you that everybody loves a beautiful; you will just meet her on the road feel interested with her, and say will not leave her.

Int: Why?

Resp6: But it is temptation (unintelligible)

Int: How do you do it if a girl has STIs, you don't fear STIs  
(Laughter from the background) let's start with you and then him.

Resp4: That thing is not always in mind it comes after doing.

Resp5: There are some that your instinct tells you to use, but some you just go in without. (Laughter from the background)

Int: How do parents contribute to young girls getting these pregnancies?

Resp4: Like we were saying, they are restrained even if they are going to urinate, they are told not to take long. Their door has also been made in a way that if you open, it produces a sound that will alert the father, and ask the girl where she

is going, if she says to urinate she is told not to take more than two minutes.

Int: Do you agree with that?

Resp2: Yes...in unison

Int: Ok

Resp3: Instead of their parents giving them time to understand what they are doing.

Int: What about you boys are you not restrained by your parents?

Resp1: You know girls (Cross talk)

Int: Mhh

Resp1: Somebody like me can be restrained because of alcohol and drugs.

Int: How does a boy feel when he impregnates a girl?

Resp8: You feel bad because taking care of a child is not easy

Int: How do you feel?

Resp8: I will tell the girl to give birth and if the baby resembles me I will support her. Just the way i told you the pregnancy might not be mine but she claims that I am responsible because at one time I slept with her.

Int: I have heard you saying that point several times, when a girl comes to you, you ask her how you will know that the pregnancy is yours.

Resp8: Yes

Int: That means if you sleep with her without protection you know that somebody else will also sleep with her without protection?

Resp8: Yes it is that way, she is yours when you are with her in the house but when she goes out she is for everyone.

Int: So you don't feel bad when she sleeps with another person?

Resp8: Yes, there is no feeling.

Int: Ok

Resp8: If maybe you have been with her for two years, then you just accept the pregnancy.

Int: Ok, another person, you have said you will feel bad because of taking care of the baby?

Resp7: Yes

Int: Are their boys those who feel proud?

Resp7: (Cross talk) maybe I was being helped with a place to sleep because I don't have a house. You know somebody might have a wife and he was not planning for a baby it just came by bad luck, he will create a mistake for his wife so that he can send her away.

Int: He will look for a way of sending her away?

Resp6: Yes, because of expenses?

Int: Have you heard of girls who get pregnant because they want?

Resp5: Yes

Int: What is the reason?

Resp6: Let's start from here

Resp3: You know that thing happened to me the day before yesterday  
and that is pregnancy? (Laughter from the background)

Int: What is it?

Resp5: You just find a lady in love with, and she does something  
so that you can feel her, she will remove her clothes so  
that you sleep with her to get pregnant, for you to marry  
her.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Another is for testing fertility.

Int: Mmmmmm

Resp6: Yes

Int: To test fertility in what way? (Laughter from the  
background)

Resp2: She wants to know whether she can give birth.

Int: Ok

Resp2: If a girl is pregnant and you are the one who made her  
pregnant you will not go telling people, but she will tell  
people.

Int: Ok, what did you want to say?

Resp3: You may find all your friends having a child, that will make  
you get pregnant and give birth to a baby, you will not mind

whether you slept with an adult, as long as you can get a baby.

Int: Ok, which other reason can make a girl want to get pregnant?

Resp4: maybe she has no job to do, and she has been neglected with her parents. So she will look for somebody whom she can cover up with.

Int: To cover up how?

Resp1: She might have dropped out of school and she is still a young girl, she is always seeing you in the slum but you are a bit stable, when she comes she will want to get pregnant so that you live together for you to help her.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Another one will get pregnant so that she does not go to school.

Int: Ok, there are those who refuse to go to school?

Resp7: Yes, because they will be insulted if they go to school while pregnant.

Int: What challenges do girls go through while they are pregnant; you have said they are insulted, what else do they go through her in slum, you can see the pregnancy is there?

Resp3: They will say (unintelligible) we don't have those issues but our story is she used to be very proud, hmm (crosstalk)

Int: They wear sweaters?

Resp3: You cannot be able to know (unintelligible, cross talk) you  
get the picture

Int: Ok

All: Mhh (Laughter from the background)

Int: Does some of them commit suicide due to that?

Resp2: That has never happened here. (Laughter from the background)  
that is for the rich out there

Resp3: Some will commit suicide.

Int: If they are abandoned, have you heard of a girl coming to a  
boy and she throws the baby to him after giving birth?

Resp5: Yes, they even leave a letter by the door. (Laughter from  
the background)

Int: If a girl comes to you and tells you that am pregnant and  
this pregnancy is yours, what will you do? I want to hear  
everybody's opinion let's start from there.

Resp8: If she comes to tell me that she is pregnant for me I will  
be shocked, and it will force me to check on the dates that  
I did sex with her. If am not able to take care of the baby  
then I will deny, but it will also depend how she looks  
like. (Laughter from the background)

Int: So there are some of you, who feel proud after impregnating  
a girl, especially if she is a beautiful woman?

Resp3: Yes



Int: So you agree with him? (Laughter from the background)

Resp4: Yes

Int: Let's listen to him.

Resp3: You cannot agree that you are the one who impregnated her,  
because you may accept and maybe the baby is not yours.

Int: Ok

Resp2: You know if she comes claiming that you are responsible  
for the pregnancy then there must be a day you slept with  
her, she cannot just come to you from nowhere claiming that  
the pregnancy is yours and you have never slept with her.

Int: Ok

Resp1: You can also find a beautiful girl who has been sent away  
because she is pregnant, you will just agree to stay with  
her and take care of her.

Int: Let's continue?

Resp2: I will deny?

Int: Why do you deny?

Resp2: Because I am not sure whether it is mine, she may be having  
other people.

Int: Now, this is a case where you are responsible, and you know  
because you slept with her?

Resp8: I will agree.

Int: He will accept what about you

Resp5: If I know it is mine I will just agree.

Int: Ok what will you do?

Resp2: I will ask her to give birth

Res3: You just concern yourself with the baby and not the mother

Resp2: It will also depend

Int: What do you mean that it depends if?

Resp2: I have to confirm that whether the baby is a girl or a boy,  
if she is a girl I will make sure that I take care of because  
girl's things are cheap.

Int: The price of their things?

Resp4: Yes, but a baby is baby.

Int: Ok, let's continue?

Resp6: It will depend on where the girl comes from, if she comes  
from the same area as me I won't accept.

Int: Why will you deny if she is from the same area as you?

Resp5: Because people will talk about me.

Int: Ok, people will talk about you?

Resp5: Yes, you know this is slum and people are idle, so they just  
gossip. If she comes from a rich family I will tell them to  
keep her for me.

Int: If she comes from a rich family you will deny?

Resp3: You know the parents love her so she can't be sent away.

Resp1: They will tell her that she has brought shame to the family.

Int: Ok, let's continue?

Resp2: I will accept and take care of her.

Int: You will accept and take care?

Resp2: Yes

Resp: How do you accept and you don't know whether the baby is yours.

Resp: (Cross talk laughter from the background)

Int: Let's listen to him first.

Resp1: I will accept because it can be the honesty between you two, she becomes pregnant when you were in relationship with her, I will just accept.

Int: Mmmm

Resp1: Let me tell you something about girls, if you put on a soft face that is when she will trick you, but if you pretend not bother she will cool down girls are cunning.

Int: Ok

Resp4: you say you will accept but if she gives birth to a Chinese and you have accepted responsibility?

Resp6: A Chinese? (Laughter from the background)

Int: What will happen if your girlfriend gives birth to a Japanese baby? (Laughter from the background)

Resp2: That is why I am saying it is good to wait for the girl to give birth first

Int: So what do you recommend? The girl should give birth first for you to know whether the baby is yours.

Resp2: Yes

Int: ok

Resp1: She can give birth then people will just insult you.

(Laughter from the background)

Int: Let's listen to him?

Resp2: It is not a must that if you have impregnated a girl she gives birth to a baby that resembles you.

Int: Ok

Resp5: You will think about your family, and see that there is nobody that is brown. (Laughter from the background)

The girl is black in color and in her family there is nobody brown. (Laughter from the background)

Resp4: Even if you meet and you are all black the baby can still be brown.

Res: (Cross talk)

Int: Ok, we have talked of challenges that these girls face and likewise to you fathers when the girl is still pregnant. Let's now talk of the challenges that a girl face after giving birth to the baby?

Resp8: They undergo problems. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Let's listen

Resp8: The girls suffer so much if the father of the baby has deny her she must look for food and clothes, so she will have to look for money in a way. I can they suffer because even if she decide to go and work for an Indian it will take a very long time before it reaches end month and there is somebody waiting for her, so she will have to look for money in another way so that the baby can survive.

Int: Ok

Resp8: It is just the same way he has said about financial status?

Int: How?

Resp8: Money.

Int: Ok, where do the girls who are sent away because they are pregnant go?

Resp6: They are told to go and look for her husband.

Int: Where does she go went sent away?

Resp6: She is told to go to the person who impregnated her.

Int: Ok, what challenges in school, are there that are denied admission?

Resp6: Yes.

Int: You said that some drop out of school because they are sent away?

Resp5: Yes it happens here very much.

Int: Ok, why can't she continue with school in that condition?

Resp7:She is stubborn.

Resp6:She feels ashamed.

Resp8:She will be insulted in school.

Int: Ok

Resp3:They don't feel ashamed; some do not go back to school after  
giving birth

Int: Ok

Resp3:They abort?

Resp2:She just feels bored with school and decides not to go to  
study because she feels that she is a parent.

Int: You are saying a boy or a girl?

Resp2:A girl, because she is rude.

Int: What do you boys face, when you have impregnated a girl and  
you are still young?

Resp4:When you are still in school?

Int: Yes

Resp4:You will have to drop out of school to go and look for money.  
(Cross talk)

Int: Let's listen to him then you.

Resp4:you have to drop out of school to go and look for job,  
because you are now a parent and you have a family.

Int: Ok

Resp4: I will refuse even though I know that I have impregnated a girl. I will just continue with school

Int4: Mmm

Resp: (Crosstalk, laughter from the background)

Int: In summary we have been talking about unintended pregnancies, now in your opinions what can be done to reduce the number of young girls getting unintended pregnancies.

Resp1: We need support and everybody should be busy doing his because going to Indians is not good, everyone wants his own job. If am busy and my friend is also busy we will not think about girls.

Int: Mmmm

Resp1: Yes, you will find us idle and the stories we are discussing are about girls, if everybody is busy, then stories like that we can tell.

Int: Ok

Resp1: The leaders that we choose should also be wise and educate us, if you teach a girl she will know how to conduct herself, because she is seen much in the community. I can't go and sit with other boys for long as the girls do. So boys are not like girls; you know girls have feelings, if the leaders that we elect can improve education then it can be good.

Int: Ok

Resp2:I will disagree with him, when he says that girl child is seen much in the community, there is nothing like that. You know if I study something I will have something to do, but if I have not gone to school she will not agree to be in a relationship. There is a way that a girl can put herself high, that if you try to talk to her she will refuse but if you investigate you will find that she didn't even go to a higher level with her education just because of us.

Int: Mmmm

Resp2:If we are educate and the girls also they can help a bigger percentage of girls, not about marriage, just the same way we said she can come to you while pregnant for support.

Int: Ok

Resp3:There is nobody bad as a girl.

Int: Why

Resp3:Because all girls are selfish.(Laughter from the Background)  
It is not a liar, you know I can help this boy, but a girl you can support her but to enlighten her can be a problem, because she likes keeping her things not to share.

Int: So girls are selfish?

Resp3:Yes, very selfish.

Int: Any other thing that you can say, that can contribute to reducing unintended pregnancies, what about contraceptives?



Is there a boy who can be ashamed of buying.....or how do you get condoms?

Resp4: In the toilet.

Resp5: At the doors of CDF

Int: You don't feel ashamed?

Resp5: Yes

Resp6: I can send somebody to pick for me.

Resp1: Nowadays these things are available, you just go and pick.

Int: If you want to go and pick you just go?

Resp: Yes (Cross talk)

Int: Ok

Resp2: Nowadays even mothers walk on the road as they give people.

(Laughter from the background) She even tell you to pick more and keep for yourself, people are used to.

Int: It is a normal thing?

Resp1: Yes

Int: Ok

Resp3: But do you know the best method?

Int: Mmm

Resp3: Is to be busy, especially if boys are busy, for instance I go to work and when I come back at nine I start preparing supper and eat after that I sleep so there will be no issues.

Int: Ok, I want us to open another chapter about abortion? You stay here, is it something that happens much?

Resp5:I can say it happens, you may find a girl is pregnant and she was going to school, you will find the parents telling her to do abortion so that she can continue with school, and that she doesn't get ashamed.

Int: Ok, they don't want her to be ashamed?

Resp5:Yes, you will find that a girl is pregnant and she doesn't know the father of her baby.

Int: Ok

Resp5:So you will find her going to another man when I deny her, and if the man also deny, she will now be stranded and decide to do abortion

Int: OK

Resp4:Even if I am sure it is mine and am not prepared I will deny.

Int: Ok, the first recommendation that you will tell a girl when pregnant is which one?

Resp7:If she comes with it?

Int: Yes

Resp7:I will tell her that it is not mine.

Int: Which methods will you tell a girl who is pregnant in this community?

Resp7:They do abortion

Resp2:They know. (Laughter from the background)

Int: They know, so you don't know? Somebody has mentioned something about abortion is it also a way boys use to solve the challenges of unintended pregnancies? Say a girl has come to you that she is pregnant and you give her money?

Resp1:Boys do not involve much, what you do is to deny, but giving money for abortion no, because you also need money.

Int: So what challenges do girls face? We are in consequences, after a girl has done abortion?

Resp1:Loss of life.

Int: Loss of life because she will commit suicide or?

Resp3:You know when she has gone to do abortion she might die by bad luck.

Int: Ok, do you know of centers that perform abortion, when a girl wants to do abortion? Is there some other place that you know?

Resp: Yes..... In unison (Cross talk).....

Resp4:Kayole, it is not a specific place, they can even come to your place.

Int: Ok

Resp4:They book for appointment.

Resp2:You just make a phone call.

Int: Which other consequence can a girl face after doing abortion?

Resp4: Her reproductive system will be interfered with and she may never have children in her life again

Ok: Loosing her fertility,

All: Yes

Int: Any other consequence?

All: Silence

Int: How do people view these girls, are there those who are known?

Resp2: Yes, they get old very first and loose weight.

Int: OK

Resp2: (Cross talk) some are used to it, you will just hear that somebody was pregnant and she aborted it.

Resp3: Some don't even lose weight at all

Resp2: These days they just get pregnant and terminate it so it has become normal

Int: Ok, if a girl wants to do abortion, whom does she talk to first? Does she come to you?

Resp5: Her friend.

Int: Why not her mother or father or teacher?

Resp5: Because her friend is much closer to her than her mother or her father, even me when I do a mistake I tell my friend.

Int: Ok, now this issue of abortion, you admit that it happens?

Resp6: Yes

Int: What is the solution to it, either to stop or for people to go for safe abortion? What can be done, let's start with here? No, start from there.

Resp8: I can say that it is better for the young girls to stop getting pregnant. (Laughter from the background) There is no need of getting pregnant just carelessly.

Int: So they should not get?

Resp8: Yes

Int: What can they do to stop them from getting those pregnancies?

Resp2: The parents should also contribute in that if they get some money, they should take them to school and tell them not do things that are bad

Int: Ok, any other different opinion?

Resp3: We can create awareness in the media

Int: How? Awareness in the media, ok

Resp1: You know approach of girls is poor; she can come to you and tell you that she is pregnant for you. You know if she comes that way I will also put her off with insults. So you know after talking to her in a bad manner she will be aggrieved and decide to do abortion.

Int: So what should you do?

Resp5: There is a way you can talk to her.

Int: Ok, another person?

Resp5: Educating them on dangers of abortion.

Int: Ok

Resp5: It is not that they don't know

Int: Ok

Resp5: Ignorance.

Resp3: They ignore.

Int: Ok, now is this community where are the girls taught about reproductive health, and family planning?

Resp4: There are seminars that are held.

Int: Ok, which was the latest seminar that you have attended?

Resp4: Last year in June.

Int: Last year June?

Resp4: Some are held but if they don't give money you can't go.

Int: Why?

Resp4: They just see it as going to waste time.

Int: Ok

Resp4: If they say that they will give like one hundred shillings they will go, as long as there is money.

Int: So where do you learn such things?

Resp5: On the TV when they are advertising

Int: Ok

Resp: (Cross talk)

Int: What is the best way to reach people in your community if we want you to know more about health reproduction, abortion?

Resp7:By networking, if I know I tell my friend.

Int: Ok

Resp7:There has to be money for them to come, so I can come say that there is a certain seminar in a certain area giving people money, may people will know and they will come.

Int: Ok

Resp4:Or they come and ask questions the way you have done, you know we learn many things.

Int: Ok good, any other way? Now we want to hear stories, I mean experiences of people you know that have gone through.

Resp7:You know stories is for everybody

Resp1:I was involved in a problem a girl said that I was responsible for her pregnancy but it was not mine so I deny.

Int: How did you know it was not yours?

Resp2:I knew the person who deny, and she came to me, you just know how boys are, I heard a boy saying that there is a girl who came to him telling him that she is pregnant for him but he deny, when I went to the estate the girl called me on

phone telling me that she is pregnant for me then I deny,  
so after I deny it just remained that way.

Int: Ok, another experience?

Resp3: Yes, me and the other boy I was waiting, there was a girl  
who was pregnant but had a list.

Int: Had what?

Resp3: List, she was pregnant for all people (Laughter from the  
background)

Int: Can you explain?

Resp3: You know I can be in a relationship with one girl after  
finishing with her; I call another boy, so she will just  
move that way until when she becomes pregnant she won't be  
sure of the owner.

Resp4: So she will be forced to write a list.

Int: So you were in that list

Resp4: Mmm... (Cross talk, Laughter from the background) Ok, am not  
in that list. (Laughter from the background) But it is  
not good.

Int: Ok

Resp2: it is not good because

Int: How do you see girls from here?

Resp2: They are not hard working (Cross talk)



Resp7: You know somebody that you have grown with is like your sister.

Int: Ok, how do you see? Or you are just fine. (Laughter from the background)

Resp7: In terms of their conduct?

Int: Yes

Resp8: I don't have something to say.

Int: Ok, I think we are now through the final question that I will ask is what can be done, but I think we have touch it government, family, maybe we have not touched religion.

Resp5: You know church nowadays (Laughter from the background)

Int: You like playing games?

Resp5: On 31<sup>st</sup> we went to a certain church, but we never went for service.

Int: Mmmm

Resp5: We just went to see how beautiful girls are in that church.  
(Laughter from the background)

Int: Mmm

Resp5: I saw some, and said that I will be going to that church.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Then the following Sunday I went, but I got tired be the service was over.

Int: So church also encourages that?

Resp: Yes (Cross talk)

Int: What he is trying to say is that going to church changes you in terms of conduct or character or you are just ok with them

Resp8: The only good place is mosque whereby men sit separately from the women who go on their side (Cross talk) if you go there you will know that you have a good girl.

Resp2: Even the girls from the church are also getting pregnant

Resp8: At least in the mosque when you get married you know you have married a good girl

Int: Ok

Resp: But we also need to go to church

Int: Ok, basically I think we have summarized everything unless you have any final remarks, which can help us improve everything to do with reproductive health?

Resp: I would like to say one thing

Int: Mhh

Resp: When you come with the subject of family planning don't bring us those stories of condoms and abstaining, it won't work, we have had those things from long time ago and there are those who listen and adhere while others don't really care. It just doesn't make sense anymore but if you are kept

busy and earning, then you will be in a better place not to engage in some these things

Int: Mhh

Resp: When

Int: Any other person with final remark?

Resp: Look for a day to mobilize young people and discuss

Int: Mhh

Resp: If there you can keep us busy

Resp: You also need to organize where we can have a forum for both boys and girls, that one can really help either way.

Int: If we put boys and girls together won't it blow out?

Resp: No, it cannot, (crosstalk)

Resp: Even sports can also brings us together and that can be a good forum also to put us together, many young people will participate in that

Int: Ok, otherwise we are very much thankful, we have covered everything and we have taken at least an hour.

**130210 004 FGD BOYS**

PROJECT STEP UP

FGD BOYS

DATE

VENUE

MODERATOR

NOTE TAKER

TRANSCRIBER T1

### **PARTICIPANTS**

Int: If we start, what challenges do you face here? You boys?

Resp3: Poverty.

Int: Who has said poverty?

Resp: Him

Int Ok

Resp1: A Boy can lack money, and decide to do get involved in  
crime. A girl can be raped and decide to commit suicide,  
so those are the challenges.

Int: Ok

Resp2: A little bit of crime.

Int: Who has said crime?

Resp2: This one has said crime.

Int: Another person? Challenges that you face?

Resp1: There is too much raping, a father raped her child, and  
even yesterday it happened.

Int: Ok

Resp3: There are a lot of diseases.

Int: Diseases like what?

Resp3: Aids, STIs and people are drinking too much liquor.

Int: If you say people? We are talking about boys?

Resp3: Yes, boys are addicted to liquor and drug abuse.

Int: Ok

Resp5: There is insecurity.

Int: How is it?

Resp5: People are robbed.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Boys are robbed and boys rob people.

Int: It happens many times?

Resp5: Adults are robbed and boys are robbed.

Laughter from the background

Int: Ok

Resp5: Administration police can arrest you because some boys  
robbed people and you have done nothing.

Int: Ok, what do you mean by saying boys have spoil?

Resp6: What he has said is true the innocent boys are the ones  
who suffer.

Resp7: You know not all boys are good some are bad, so they may steal and when police are pursuing them and they meet you they will arrest you but you were not in that group.

Int: Ok, I have heard that if you dress decent the police will arrest you?

Resp: Yes, I may have put on Timberland shoes when the police meet you they will ask you where you got money to buy the expensive shoes. They will tell you that you must be a thief and arrest you. They have formed a plan to arrest because they wonder where you got money to buy those expensive shoes and they are working and they can't afford them. So they form how you pay them salary.

Int: One person to tell me? You will pay him salary?

Resp7: Yes, you are a project to give him money.

Int: You also give him?

Resp8: Yes, because if you don't he will take you to the police station and you don't want to end up in the cell because they will charge you with more crimes. He can even say that you are a problem in the society and you have never interfered with anybody.

Int: Is their problem of people fighting?

Resp8: Yes, people like Ruto or Uhuru may come here and give out money for people to share then we start fighting over it.

Int: There is a problem of young girls getting unintended pregnancies?

Resp1 Even young girls just get pregnant while still in school, nowadays they don't care it is something normal.

Int: You can say it is at what rate? Laughter from the background

Resp2: There is a teacher who impregnated a girl?

Int: A teacher impregnated a girl?

Resp2: Yes, at our lady.

Int: How do the problems you have said differ from girls and boys?

Resp3: There is something called self-esteem.

Int: You were saying something about self-esteem?

Resp3: You know self-esteem of a boy get stimulated and he goes and rape a girl, and a girl get stimulated during hot season that leads her to untidy things and that causes unexpected pregnancy.

Int: Do the girls also participate in crime?

Resp2: Yes like a day ago I saw three ladies raping a man.

(Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp2: But not very much, girls don't participate much.

Resp1: A lady just sits somewhere and snatches a bag like eagle.

Laughter from the background

Int: So you have said even girls participate? They rob people?

Resp3: They do that because they lack people to assist them, if they ask for money from boys we don't give them.

Int: ok

Resp3: They always rob things from girls when she is under influence of jet fuel and that make her see a huge person as an ant.

Resp1: What causes all these is poverty.

Int: You were saying nowadays they do?

Resp1: They use jet fuel, it is something like water put in a container, and we don't know whether it is jet fuel we are just told. They put it in the mouth after five minutes they behave funny.

Int: Ok

Resp1: You know jet fuel when put on a vehicle it knocks what if a person consumes it the mind goes knockout. Laughter from the background

Int: How does love relationship happen here?



Resp2: It is very high; here in slums people want to move with all girls, that is how people get diseases. They think it is being great, and you will be known that you move with all the girls in Korogocho not knowing their status.

Laughter from the background

Int: Are there boys who are in relationship with adults?

All: Yes...

Resp2: Yes, a friend of mine a motor bike rider moves with an old woman, that lady has a son in south Africa who sends her money, so she uses that money to buy the boy shoes and next time she gives him money to buy jeans trousers, he just sleeps with her.

Resp4: If you see them walking it is like he is with his grandmother. Laughter from the background

Int: What about girls?

Resp4: Girls also are like that, they want old men, and you know boys do not have money but old men have money. Maybe you just get one hundred shillings in a day, which is not enough to use with a girl. Laughter from the background

Int: Is there prostitution here?

Resp5: No

Resp6: No

Int: Yes, you can't fail to get. Laughter from the background

Int: What problems usually arise from these relationships?

Somebody has told me one can be infected with aids.

Resp4: STIs diseases, syphilis.

Int: What problems arise after these relationships? Apart from diseases?

Resp5: People fight, when someone sees somebody with his girl and maybe the girl is suffering from a disease.

Resp6: They carry metal to fight each other, people just kill each other and they are all infected with diseases.  
Laughter from the background.

Int: The girls in love relationship with adults do they still continue with school?

Resp8: Say, they drop out of school and when the old man abandoned her she will be forced to do prostitution, for her to be able to pay rent. That means she has brought disease in the slum and she got it in town.

Int: Let's listen to him first (crosstalk)

Resp8: We saw another case here; a girl is in love relationship with adult then they move with her and she gets back to school after two months. After six months she dumps you then after sometime drops out of school and get in a relationship with a man again, after getting some money she comes back and get in a relationship with a boy and

maybe she is infected with a disease, she will definitely infect the boy.

Resp7: You may find a lady who was in relationship and after robbing that man money she comes back to the slum and gets in a relationship with a boy like me, and she was in relationship with another boy so when I meet him with that lady we will fight and you know she will be giving you money and also infecting you with disease, and your colleague also will be infected.

Int: Is there abortion happening?

Resp5: I want to contribute on that issue of girls getting in relationships with adults and dropping out of school?

Int: Ok

Resp5: What causes that mostly is lack of school fees, money and poverty, when she also think of how her parents are poor, she will get involve in that relationship after two months she get back to school to pay her school fees.

Resp6: Not all of them pay school, just a girl who is intelligent will get the money and pay her school, but majority of them will now drop out of school, because she has tested the sweetness of that money she gets it easily. You know many times when a thief goes to steal he will not stop because that money is sweet and he gets it easily. So a

girl may go to steal and she comes with two thousand shilling the following day she comes back with four thousand shilling and the third day she may get ten thousand shillings and that is a lot of money. Laughter from the background

Resp1: Some parents also just receive money from their daughter, not knowing how she got that money; because of poverty when their daughter brings them like two hundred shillings the mother will receive it and rush to buy cabbage, instead of asking her how she got the money.

Int: Do these young girls get married to the adults?

Resp1: Those who are lucky.

Resp2: They get married for two months and they are taken to Kayole, but after three or four months you will find a girl back here asking you to buy for her fries and she was with a rich man. Laughter from the background

Int: Ok

Resp2: Many men who get into relationship with these young girls always say that they want virgin girls, after misusing them they abandon them.

Resp3: You know with money you just buy for a girl fries for ten shilling, if you buy her fries from town she will just follow you. Laughter from the background

Int: Ok

Resp3 she will come back here pregnant and give birth and leave the baby with her mother and goes back to town. So we are the ones to be the father of the child.

Int: Ok

Resp3: Many girls who go to do those things come from poor families and you know girls have a lot of needs. They have to buy cosmetics, oil for her hair.

Resp4: If a girl cannot dress in a beautiful she will not attract any boy, so she will have to beautify herself and attract a boy, when she is given money with that boy she uses that money to dress well and attract another boy so she infects many with disease.

Int: What are your opinions on unintended pregnancies?

Resp5: That is something normal here that people are used to.

Resp6: A girl gets pregnant somewhere and you sleep with her ones, and you get in problem because you are told that the baby is yours and it is not yours.

Int: When you are told that the baby is yours what will you do?

Resp3: I will just accept, but be a father of bread.

Resp5: If many are told that way they won't accept instead they will send her away.

Int: Why do they send her away?

Resp8: Because they also feel that the baby is not theirs.

Int: Ok

Resp5: Somebody cannot say that she is pregnant for you, how will you know whom she has met with before you. You know here these young girls will just open up for you when she knows that she has slept with an adult. So that you become the one responsible for her pregnancy, she will agree to open her legs for an adult because she will be bought fried meat and bring for you the baby and you will accept because she was opening her legs for you. Laughter from the background

Int: This boy has said that it is poverty that leads these girls to doing that is there any other reason?

Resp2: For example a girl can be stranded on what to do, because maybe she doesn't have parents they may have died of a disease, or maybe her family is not known, since there is nobody to assist she can decide to do those things.

Resp3: Only orphans get involved because they are not able to get assistance, but here in Korogocho most of girls just do prostitution. Since she doesn't have parents she will deeply get into prostitution. So we will also bury her, like we buried his mother, father, and grandmother. Laughter from the background

Int: Can quarrels contribute to girls getting pregnant?

Resp: Silence

Int: Can fight make a girl get pregnant?

Resp4: Yes, like during election violence, when policemen are sent to the slum, when they are beating people and they meet a woman or a girl they will do bad things to them.

Int: It also happened to her?

Resp4: Yes, like in Northeastern in 2008, when they deployed army officers to beat people, the army offices went door to door. That will make the man of the house to escape for fear of being beaten, so when the army officers come and find the woman alone in the house they will rape her and if the army had a disease he will infect the woman and even impregnate her, so fight also can cause those things.

Int: Ok

Resp4: When the boys go to steal and they meet a woman on the road at night they will rape her.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Another thing that finish boys her in slums is drunkenness, for instance say we have drunk alcohol and we are on the road, you don't know where the devil has come from, you across a lady putting on a jean trouser she attracts you, then you grab her towards a corner and sleep with her, waking

up in the morning you find yourself having slept with a girl who didn't wash her legs since morning. Laughter from the background

Int: When the girls walk in-group can that also make them get unintended pregnancy?

Resp7: You know when they are strolling they do it with intention, I girl may tell her friend that there is a boy who has money and he wants you, that is a lie and maybe that boy is sick so they cheat each other. Why can't she send the other girl? So that girl will go to that boy and she will be coming back with two or three hundred shillings not knowing that she is being used?

Resp1: It also happens that the girls are the ones influencing boys, because a jobless beautiful girl can come to you that she wants to go to saloon, that is like telling you to go to the road and start beating people one after the other so that you bring to her money for saloon, you are forced to steal and if you are found you are shot with a bullet, and the girl is fine and you are dead. Laughter from the background

Int: Can you say that family planning methods also contribute to unintended pregnancies in young girls?

Resp2: Yes, they are there, and they help a lot.



Resp3: We also pray that they bring for men. Laughter from the background

Int: Ok

Resp2: We also believe in Islam that we are born in this world to procreate and be more.

Resp3: In Muslim they allow polygamy.

Resp5: They allow marrying even four wives.

Int: Even if you don't have anything?

Resp5: Even in the bible it is written we fill the world with people, so we fill the world with people. So you can marry like four wives.

Int: What did you want to say?

Resp1: I can't hide that even my father married four wives; I can get into relationship with my sister without knowing, because they are many. You are told to certify all of them, not to like one side than the other. But we are brought in the world to fill the world.

Int: How do girls feel when boys impregnate them and they were not expecting these pregnancies?

Resp8: You can find one who wanted but there is one who gets by bad luck, for that case you just contribute money for abortion if you have no intention of hurting her, because you know that has just happened by bad luck. You also didn't want a

child if it is giving her like two thousand you will work hard to give her.

Resp7: But we as our denomination say abortion we don't allow it is a crime, so it is better for her to give birth for me so that I suffer with that child, than do abortion.

Resp6: If you are a bright boy you accept, because it was by bad luck, but many of us do abortion.

Int: What happens to girls who do abortion her in the slum?

Resp2: Many girls who do abortion some die, some cannot hold on when they want to urinate they just find themselves urinating, even when she feels like going to the toilet she can't hold on, those are the effects of abortion.

Int: Ok

Rasp2: Life is nowadays very bad, a girl can be HIV positive but even if you buy for her many things she won't tell you she will just want to sleep with you, and she will not ask for money because she knows you might detect that she is HIV positive and send her away, so she will just give you so that you give her money. Have you seen the way they have ruined people's life, instead of telling you.

Int: What did you want to say?

Resp3: Many boys are not ready for children now; I might be having a girl friend and if I look at my age am not ready to be

called a father, so when that girl tells me that she is pregnant and am responsible when I recall that this girl has been my friend, you will just sit down and discuss how you will solve the problem. When you realize that only two thousand is wanted for abortion you will work hard and give her because you have been friends you don't want to hurt her. She will tell you that if you can't marry her she will see what to do, and you know that you are not ready for marriage so it will just force you to give her so that she goes her own way.

Int: Are the boys embarrassed here in slums after impregnating girls?

Resp3: Embarrassment is not something to them.

Int: Are their boys that are embarrassed?

Rasp3: No, maybe if the girl follows you and keep on nagging you and telling everybody how you impregnated her and abandon her.

Resp4: Some men feel even stronger because they have impregnated a girl. You can be a thief and when you rob a person you beat them with a metal and he falls down when you meet another person you beat him with a metal and he falls down people will fear as a warrior. When you die they hide your bad deeds you will hear people saying you were a good person.

Int: What can make a young girl hers in slum to go to a boy to impregnate her and maybe the boy does not want?

Resp2: It is love.

Resp4: It is not love.

Int: What is it?

Resp4: Money.

Resp2: Not money

Int: Let's get from him then we will listen to you? Why are you saying money?

Resp4: It is money because your money will be used until it is over and then she gets pregnant even, even if your money is not over he will leave and go to another boy.

Int: What about you?

Resp5: You can be a boy who has money, so when a girl sees you with good dressing, you have shoes worth ten thousand, and a cap worth five hundred, a girl will know that you have money, even if she never wanted to get involve in those issues she will just get agree because she knows you have money. When your money gets used up she leaves you for another boy.

Laughter from the background

So a girl knows that she will get all she wants if you have money.

Int: Now you, you were saying it is not money?

Resp8: Yes, these virgins they influence each other when one of them sees that her colleague has breasts and she has a boyfriend, she will also look for a boyfriend but what they are following is money. So they influence each other.

Int: What if your money is over?

Resp4: When your money is over, it is like what we here that white people marry with contract, when your money is over she goes away.

Int: Let's listen to him?

Resp6: For example you have a sister and your sister has friend who is beautiful but still young, so when you want that girl you send your sister and she will not refuse being your sister's friend or you are well known in the slum because your family is rich, maybe you have a vehicle, the girl will look for an opportunity so that you get in a love relationship with her so that she can be getting money from you. (Laughter from the background) So things like that influence young girls to get involve in behaviors that they never wanted. Laughter from the background

Int: Any other person with a different opinion?

Resp7: You know there are things they look at, for instance a boy like my brother sitting there if he puts on shoes and buy

jeans trouser, which is usually sold at one thousand two hundred, when he puts on and pass by a place where four or five girls are sited you will hear them saying that they can love a boy like that one. If the boy heard what they said he will sleep with them all. You will find a girl coming to talk to him then another and another one so they will influence each other. Then one girl will force herself on the boy then he will sleep with her. And when she gets pregnant, and you the boy, was not planning something like that, so when the girl tells him that she is pregnant she will send her away and go for another girl.

Int: Ok

Resp7:What causes the things he has said is that maybe a boy passes where five girls are sited with those shoes then he talks to one girl the others will be jealous, so they will gossip with that boy saying lies how that girl has bad issues while pretending but they also want get into love relationship with him.

Int: What do the girls that get unintended pregnancies? I heard one of you saying they do abortion?

All: They do abortion. .... in unison

Int: Why do they do abortion?

Resp2:Because they are not ready.

Resp5: You know I will not allow her to do abortion if am the one who impregnate her, I can even kill her if I realize that she went and did abortion, because I know it is a very big sin.

Int: Mhh

Resp6: A big percentage of boys who impregnate girls allow abortion because you never planned that you will take care of the baby, and you are unemployed, you also don't have any property that brings money. So it will force you to allow abortion.

Int: Ok talk then your colleague?

Resp6: If she is coming to embarrass you when you are with your friends, saying you have refused to give her money, even people will know that you don't help your baby. If it reaches that level you feel like killing her.

Resp1: A girl can take the baby and throws to you telling you to take your baby.

Resp3: You know some boys here do not allow abortion, they say it is better for the baby to be born then they take to their mother, and the girl is maybe a prostitute so when the baby grows he doesn't know where his mother went.

Int: You have said there are some who abort and who give birth and give away the baby?

Resp4: Yes, because your mother cannot reject your baby.

Int: Let's listen to him?

Resp8: Muslim girls do not do abortion, if they get unexpected pregnancy; they give birth and take the baby to the mother of that girl. If say the boy is a Christian or another tribe and the boy has no money, it will force the girl to accept the baby and give birth, and then the baby is taken to the mother of that girl to take care of him

Int: Ok

Resp8: You know in Islam if a girl does abortion nobody will marry her.

Int: Mhh

Resp8: The parents cannot allow you to do abortion; they will ask you if the boy is irresponsible why you were walking with him.

Int: Are there those who sale the baby after giving birth?

Resp6: I was almost buying one.

Resp4: Some girls after giving birth they tie the baby in a piece of cloth and take to the roadside at around 5.00am in the morning, when you are going to work you see a baby crying. Who will take that baby?

Resp7: I also saw a daughter of our neighbor who is a Christian and was pregnant, and she was not expecting the baby so after



giving birth she kept the baby in a polythene paper and placed him by the roadside. So people only realized when a dog went and removed the baby from the polythene paper while dead.

Resp6: I also saw a baby moving in a river, you know there is a river here and he was still crying? If you take that baby, how will you to take care of him? You just leave the baby to flow away with water. Laughter from the background.

Into: You said you were almost buying a baby? Tell me that story?

Resp5: There was a girl with a baby by the roadside and she was selling him, she was telling people to take her to a person can buy the baby, thinking here is an estate where rich men will give her two hundred thousand shilling, here if you are given much is two hundred shillings. If you give out your baby here you will be given one hundred shillings or fifty shillings. Laughter from the background

Int: People sell babies here?

Resp1: A girl just comes to you with a baby that she got him by the roadside and now she is selling him.

Resp2: That happens here much is that they place the baby by the roadside at 6am, maybe she came from Kariobangi with the baby to Korogocho, people will know that the baby is from Korogocho, not knowing that things are good Kariobangi.

People will go round saying that a baby has been thrown in Korogocho and that is spoiling our name.

Int: Are there girls who give birth and sell the baby?

Resp4: Some girls give birth in the Hospital, and they be alert that when the doctor is not around they leave the baby and runaway. The day before yesterday we caught one woman a mother whom we forced to go back for the baby.

Resp7: How do you leave the baby in the Hospital? After giving birth with all that pain, that is like helping the baby the doctor?

Resp5: No, that one left the baby because of poverty, because even if she goes with the baby she will be in problem, so it is better to runaway and suffer alone instead of carrying another burden.

Int: How old is that mother?

Resp4: She is almost forty-seven years old. Laughter from the background

Resp3: No, she is thirty-three or thirty-four; she gave birth and left when people were not alert, not knowing that somebody saw her, she was followed up to the road and brought back to the hospital, and she was asked what was the problem and she is said there is no money and people contributed money

fro her. So it is because of poverty or maybe the boy abandoned her or the father is not known.

Resp2: It happens here?

Int: Ok, and what problems do those girls who give birth undergo?

Resp3: Taking care of the baby is difficult.

Int: What do they do if taking care of the baby is difficult?

Resp2: You may hear that a girl has thrown away, because she has been defeated on taking care.

Resp1: She cannot take care of herself or even pay rent and she adds another burden in the house? It is better for her to leave the baby at the hospital.

Resp6: Some do prostitution.

Resp8: She gave birth and not even one week is over and you will find a woman has gone to town to sell her body so that she can get two hundred for milk and it is trying her luck, maybe she has been rained on the all night while she comes back in the morning she smells.

Resp7: We always tell those people who come here for seminar to keep on coming; you know they help them much, by giving them three hundred shilling. They help women and girls who go to town to do prostitution because of two hundred shillings. We tell them to inform their bosses so that they can be

coming at least twice in a week because they have a lot of money. Laughter from the background

Int: What problems do they undergo with the friends they leave with?

Resp4: The relationship ends.

Int: Say they were walking in a group and one of them gets pregnant and give birth?

Resp6: They will insult her how she is a fool, that how can she just get pregnant like that? Why didn't she use medicine, and tell her to remain in the house and take care of the baby not to follow them because she is now a mother and they are still young girls.

Int: What if they give birth while they are still in their parent's house? Are they sent away?

Resp7: Your brothers who were we with you in the house will send you away, telling you how you don't see the problem in the house you still bring another thing. Laughter from the background

Resp7: They send you away.

Int: If they get pregnant and they were still in school?

Resp5: The teacher will send her away, telling her that she is a mother like her so she can't sit in her class.

Res3: I completed form four last year and we were with one who was pregnant, she went and gave birth and left the baby with her mother and came to complete school.

Int: Somebody said when she experiences the problem of taking care of the baby she goes to do prostitution? What about when she is sent away from home and she doesn't have anywhere to leave what does she do?

Resp7: She will go to her friend to see how they can live; maybe her friend will be left with baby or she can leave the baby with a neighbor who also has children and tell her that she will be back in while, and when she comes back she will be giving her like fifty shillings and again in the evening while she is going she will give her some food to feed the baby and make her sleep, in the house alone so when there is fire breakout you will hear that there was a baby who burnt in the house, because the mother was not there. When she comes back in the morning is when she finds out that houses caught fire and the baby died. Who will be blamed for that? That girl went to look for food.

Int: What about Mathare?

Resp8: We have finished Mathare. Laughter from the background

Int: What problems do a boy experience when a girl has given birth and he is the one taking care of the baby?

Resp8: They undergo many problems; since you have accepted to take care of the baby it will force you to start robbing people because the baby has to eat. That means crime rate will increase, if you rob one man and you get one thousand two hundred then you buy milk and maize flour then the second day you rob another person and get money for rent you will stay well.

Resp4: If I say my opinion, mostly the girls who get unintended pregnancy usually wash clothes for people and are given fifty shillings; they also wash utensils the all day.

Resp3: Those are Luos girls, kikuyu girls there is nothing like that. Laughter from the background

Int: Let's listen to him.

Resp2: So you see, maybe the all days' work you are just given one hundred and fifty shillings, it will force some of them to join groups that give money, to get the requirements of the baby.

Int: What were you saying?

Resp1: He said that once you accept the baby, you will be force to cater for him, if you see your neighbor's baby with good shoes you will also work hard to buy for your baby the same shoes as his. When we go to look for job from an Indian you will just see him smoking in front of his gate and goes back

inside? Why can't you be angry? (Laughter from the background) You will find yourself stabbing him with a knife. (Laughter from the background)

Int: You have said that abortion is too much here? Why do girls decide to do abortion?

Resp2: We finish by four? Am requesting?

Resp3: We will be called to the mosque.

Int: We are finishing, which methods do they use to do abortion?

Resp4: Many of them do abortion in unprofessional way.

Resp6: You know when you are pregnant you are not suppose to take medicine, like Panadol if she takes that is poison it will abort the pregnancy

Int: Let him finish then we will listen to you?

Resp3: When a girl is pregnant she is not suppose to take any medicine bought from the shop until nine months is over, if she takes that will kill the baby, she is only suppose to eat food only. So, if you go to the shop and buy Panadol and you take the following day you will just see blood coming.

Int: You can talk now?

Resp: How many people who walk on the road and the baby just fall on the road? Tea leaves is another thing that if she takes can lead to abortion.

Resp4: Some people also say drinks like "Soda"

Int: Soda how?

Resp3: Like Fanta, tea leaves, and very many things.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Even medicine if you take, because the baby is feeding on what you are eating even the small thing you eat will harm him, the following day you will just see blood coming out, you will collect meat from the ground and throw into the toilet. (Laughter from the background)

Int: What problem do girls undergo when they want to do abortion?

Resp1: That one we can't know.

Resp7: The problem they undergo is this, when they go to do abortion they die.

Resp6: You know abortion is fifty, fifty, you can remain alive or go to the father.

Resp8: Even if you remain a live God can also refuse to give you a baby.

Resp7: That is like punishment from God.

Resp3: God can punish not give birth to a baby in your entire life.

Int: In your opinions how can these unintended pregnancies be prevented? Everybody will say his; let's start with you?

Resp4: The girls should be kept busy with things like seminar, so that they provide for the girls because an idle mind is a devil's workshop. If they remain free they will...



Int: Another person?

Resp2: I can also say they should attend seminars and advised they won't get time for those things.

Resp1: They are put in groups to do something that will keep them busy; and taught how to plait hair so that when their colleagues sees how she is smart she will also admire to be smart. If she gets used to low life because she lives in an area where life is low she will just remain with slippers, but if she goes to a place like Buru Buru and sees a person with good shoe she will also admire, that if she is given two hundred shilling she will also go and buy good shoes. But there in Grogan what will she use to buy shoes? She will just remain like others

Resp6: They provide to them things like seminar.

Int: What about you men? You know, you are the ones who contribute to those pregnancies?

Resp6: We can also be happy with groups.

Resp7: Listen, we should go and get counseling, because you know many of us are illiterate. We are taught the consequences of doing some things; if you do this it can lead you to that. To avoid or you use Condom, we get educated.

Resp2: Also taking us to courses can prevent.

Resp1: Courses like catering.

Resp3: Like building, wedding.

Resp7: Doing weddings of denomination, if the girl leaves you and goes to another person and you have done wedding, she will have brought curse to her life. You know a girl who has not done wedding can sleep here and tomorrow there, so long as she can get her daily bread.

Int: And you, how can these things be prevented?

Resp5: By using protection like condom. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp8: Yes, that one thing, that can help us much, you see in the coming government we will elect many people to represent us; they should go there and tell the government to produce more of these protections. The people that we have elected they waste a lot of money especially now that there is campaign they can come here and take like ten or twenty boys and pay for them courses, and if among the boys there is a serious person who knows what he has gone to do there, he will come back knowing something that he can do.

Int: Ok

Resp6: You know now there is something like county coming, there is governor, senator, county representative, women representative, there will be many opportunities for jobs

so youths should be employed. Many things will come up in the county like ministry of public health, ministries, so that youths can be employed.

Resp7: So that we can get rid of many people in slums idling, that can prevent the girls from getting unintended pregnancies.

Resp3: You see that is job creation, and poverty dies. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok, am very much thankful for your opinions.

Resp1: We are also thankful; because we have learnt a lot that we never knew, we will also be happy to meet you again.

Resp2: You should talk to those people to provide seminars, especially weekends.

Int: Mhh

Resp3: There are people who come here and take photos of poor people, blind people and street boys and they tell us that they will come back to help them, instead they go and make money with photos.

### **130210-001 FGD BOYS**

Int: You agree we can start?

Resp: Yes

Int: If we start, what challenges do you boys face here in the slum?

Resp8: Peer pressure.

Int: Peer pressure, ok, explain a bit? (Laughter from the background)

Resp: (unintelligible)

Int: Let's hear another person? Ok, he is still thinking a bit, another person, problems that you face?

Resp8: Bad company.

Int: He is saying bad company, another person?

Resp3: Job

Int: Job?

Resp: Some are jobless

Int: Ok, another person?

Resp6: Police harass us a lot. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Is a problem?

Resp6: You can't dress well.

Int: How, can you explain to me?

Resp6: You can dress just simple but when you meet a police he will suspect you on the first day, when you find him searching people on the road. I found police searching people on the road by putting his hand in the pocket then he left.

(Laughter from the background)

Int: If you dress smart police arrests you?

Resp6: He called me and asks who I am and he was not dressed like a policeman. Then he said come here or I will shoot you with a bullet, when I heard of a bullet I surrendered to him.

(Laughter from the background)

Int: He...if you dress how?

Resp6: You dress in a simple manner.

Int: Mmmm

Resp6: The way this boy has dressed, he has dressed "choki"

Int: Mmm

Resp6: You can't dress "choki" and if he looks at your height.

Int: They suspect?

Resp7: They see me as a robber.

Int: He.....

Resp6: That is the problem.

Int: Ok, another problem that you face here; challenges that you boys face?

Resp3: Drug abuse.

Int: Drug abuse; explain a bit how is it?

Resp3: Smoking of bhang.

Int: Mmm

Resp1: Drinking of alcohol leads them to bad things.

Int: Ok, boys of this age also drink those things?

Resp1: Very many.

Int: Ok, where do they get these drugs?

Resp1: They buy.

Int: You have said alcohol; can you go in a bar and buy at this age?

Resp1: Yes, you will say that you have been sent.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Not in the bar.

Int: Where?

Resp2: At Wakihara's place (Laughter from the background)

Int: Waki?

Resp2: A person called Wakihara. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp4: He sells illicit brew; it's not a must that you buy in a bar

Int: Mmm

Resp4: You don't have to go to the bar to get drunk, because you can go in a bar and pay one hundred shillings and you don't get drunk, but you can buy illicit brew for just a quarter of a glass and when you drink you get drunk.

Int: He sells to anybody?

Resp4: Yes anybody.

Int: Ok, another problem, let's think? The ones you see boys facing?

Resp4: Friends, I can be from school and in the house doing homework then a friend comes in, and tells me that there is a party somewhere at night, so when I go to that party and see a girl why won't I ask for love relationship? (Laughter from the background) You will just talk nice and as time goes but tomorrow you are suppose to go to school, thinking that maybe she is not going to school. So you will be enjoying the party when it reaches evening you go and spend at your friend's place, so the following day you fail to go to school because you know will disturb people. When you go to school you are asked why you didn't come to school you will just remain

silent because there is nothing you can say, and some people like me do not understand English. (Laughter from the background) If a teacher ask you something in English and you reply differently she will say that you are disrespectful and she will send you back home, but you didn't understand her,

Int: Ok, that is a problem, another challenge?

Resp3: He said peer pressure. You can have bad company, and maybe you are a good boy, your friend may have impregnated his girlfriend and he comes to tell you that you don't have a girlfriend, that you have never impregnated a girl, so he comes to influence you. You will be left wondering how you don't have a girlfriend and your friend has, so you will go and impregnate a girl then it affects you. After impregnating a girl when her mother realizes she will also know who gave her, after that you will be forced to runaway. So it will affect your studies and talent and then you loose your life that way.

Int: Ok, another person?

Resp4: The problem, which is here, is with the adults who use drugs and they don't go to bring them, so at times people like us are sent to buy and if you go several times one day you will decide to use it so that you may know what they get when they use it, and if you continue using it you can be addicted to it, and also start stealing.



Int: Ok, where do they send you those drugs?

Resp4: Those lower sides.

Int: Ok, they send you for them to use or to sell?

Resp4: So that they use.

Int: Ok, another person that sees a problem? Or we say school, he said that if you disagree with teachers you are sent home, is there any other problem that you face in school?

Resp4: Mostly when we are in school boys are seen than girls because if it is caning a boy is caned as if he is to be killed and when she is a girl she is caned with care.  
(Laughter from the background)

Int: Why?

Resp7: Because a boy is stubborn in school but also girls are stubborn if one of them insults you then you beat her if she reports you, the teacher will say that you are the one who wronged her, so the teacher will cane you and when you meet the girl outside school, you will also beat her up and that can make you drop out of school.

Int: Boys runaway from school?

Resp2: Yes, many of them.

Resp5: There are teacher who like canning boys than girls, so they just look for a small thing then they call you and cane you, but girls are not caned.

Int: Ok, and is there this thing of teachers getting in love relationship with young girls in your classes?

Resp1: Yes it is there.

Int: Explain to me?

Resp1: You can find that I have done mathematics and a girl copies my work but the teacher will mark mine wrong but the girl will get it right. So you will ask yourself why, then you will find this teacher calling that girl in the office, I don't know what he does to her in the office.

Int: Ok

Resp1: Sometimes when a teacher comes with the book he will just stand somewhere maybe next to that girl and talks until he finish.

Int: (Laughter)...he just teaches where the girl is only

Resp2: Yes

Int: Ok

Resp8: You can find a teacher standing in front of the class but instead of writing on the blackboard, he just talks while

looking at that girl. If you look at the girl she will also be looking at the teacher so you will just know that there is a relationship going on.

Int: Ok, another person with a story like that, or a slightly different one.

Resp7: Let's say I am from home and late for school and meets a girl who maybe in a class which is ahead of me when we reach school gate we find a teacher then he allows the girl to go but am told to remain at the get until late and get caned later.

Int: Mmm .....and teachers do that?

Resp7: Not all of them but some.

Int: I mean there are those who do that?

Resp: Yes.

Int: Now, is there problem of crime here?

Resp4: Crime?

Int: Yes

Resp4: It is there.

Resp5: Don't even talk. (Laughter from the background)

Resp1: You see the road from Groggo?

Int: Mmm.....

Resp8: There are boys who stand there, when you come from the other side dressed smart and you are carrying your phone they will surround you and tell you to put your phone down or they cut you with a **sharp object**, you will be forced to put down and if you go to call "Mabanga" then you make sure that they don't see you because if they see you they will now kill you.

Int: Hee!! What is Mabanga?

Resp64: Police.

Int: Ok, another person to tell me story?

Resp: Another problem is hunger it really bites us. (Laughter from the background)

Int: How?

Resp4: Stomach can lead you to a bad place.

Int: Mmm

Resp4: when you are hungry and you see your neighbor's padlock is cord, there is a vague padlock called cord. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Mmm

Resp4: You will go and twist the padlock, and then enter and steal, the first day will succeed but you will not be satisfied, then you go the third day and get caught. So when you are caught

you will be taken to the chief's place and if chief is not able to punish you, then there is mob justice who will beat and even kill you, that is a challenge to boys.

Int: Ok, hunger, what about health? Do boys of your age have health challenges?

Resp2: Back in the house you can find that a boy has gone to stroll when he comes back he will get just a handful of food left for him. (Laughter from the background) And if you start complaining they'll ask you whether you brought any money, then you will just be silent, if you tell them that you are not satisfied they will beat you.

Int: Ahh.....ok another challenge, is there problem of health, diseases that boys of your age have?

Resp2: One way that can cause those diseases is drug abuse because after using them ones shoulder will rise and he loses weight

Int: Ok, that happens or there is one who disagrees?

Resp5: It happens.

Int: It happens, and there is this problem of girls getting pregnant early, when they are not expecting?

Resp7: You can have a girlfriend and her mother knows, then this girl has another boyfriend, and she gets pregnant for the other boy. When her mother ask her who made her pregnant, she will say it is you because the other boyfriend threatened her that

if she says that he is the one who made her pregnant he will kill her, so it will force the girl to say that you are the one who made her pregnant and you don't know anything. Then they will come and tell you to live with that girl or you get prosecuted and you know if you get prosecuted you can be jailed for life.

Int: Why does a boy tell a girl that he will kill her, if she says that he is the one who impregnated her?

Resp3: Because the boy is not ready to take care of the baby and the wife.

Int: Ok, and is there a problem like that, girls getting pregnant early?

Resp: Yes... (in unison)

Int: Who can explain a bit? In the slum where you live?

Resp3: For instance, a girl has completed school in 2012, and she knows very well that it is not good to get pregnant after completing school and she has not even reached form one, for example girls in Korogocho put on clothes and stroll, she will say that why can't she also put on like them, so she will put on and join the group, and when she is with them they will tell her that they all have boyfriend's, that she should also

get one or leave there group, after getting she may sleep with that boy and get pregnant.

Int: What do they put on?

Resp4: Long trouser, someone dress in a unique way.

Int: How?

Resp4: You can find a girl not putting on underwear here in Kisumu Dogo those things happen.

Int: She doesn't put on underwear?

Resp4: Yes, she has not put on underwear but she has put on long trouser and unzipped it and again she a blouse that is short and she has boarded a motorbike going to town at 9.00pm.

Int: Nine in the morning or at night?

Resp3: 9.00 at night that is when they usually go to town.

Int: How old are they?

Resp3: They are small girls and their leaders are mothers who got spoilt long time, they are the ones who teach these girls those things.

Int: Ok.

Resp6: I have a question?

Int: Yes ask?

Resp6: I heard that if you don't do sex you can get a certain disease, is it true? (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok, let's hear, who can answer him?

Resp7: If you don't do sex you can't get infected with a disease so longer you are protected.

Resp4: I have never done abortion.

Resp2: That is for.... (Laughter from the background)

Int: In all these challenges you have talked about like drugs do girls also engage in them?

Resp2: You know when there is funeral here there must be music and girls just come from nowhere. I stood next to a shop as I see girls smoking cigarettes and some bhang and they hide in the dark so that they are not seen. When you tell them that "mabeast" are coming they throw away.

Int: Who are mabeast?

Resp6: Policemen. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok, another person?

Resp1: I can say that it is not there wish to take drugs they take because their boyfriends maybe chewing miraa or smoking cigarettes. So the girl being in deep love with the boy will be told that if she doesn't chew miraa and smoke bhang he will separate with her, the girl will not accept to be left



considering that the boy love her she will be forced to use drugs and can be addicted and she will not be able to stop using it.

Int: Ok, you were also telling me about drugs, would you explain to me if girls also face that problem?

Resp2: In Korogocho not only boys use drugs but also girls use them.

Int: What health wise you have said boys get, do also girls face the same problem?

Resp2: I have not seen, you know girls use a little bit of it.

Int: Ok

Resp2: On the issue of drugs still, you will find a pregnant girl chewing mirraa or smoking cigarettes, and when she gives birth, you can find the baby born with complications, maybe the baby is born mad or head leaning towards one side.

Int: Ok

Resp3: When the girl gives birth to such a child she will claim that the baby is not hers and even want to throw her away.

Int: They throw babies?

Resp: Yes.....in unison.

Resp3: They were throwing babies in a river, you find someone rapping a baby in a polythene paper after giving birth and placing it

by the roadside, so you will think that she has thrown wastes and it is a baby.

Int: Ok, what did you want to say?

Resp3: I wanted to say that when one gets thin it is because of too much drug usage, if she gets money she hurries to buy drugs, but if you see the amount of food she is taking is very little and that is why she gets thinner.

Int: Ok

Resp3: About a person using miraa too much, he can lose appetite and his teeth's can also get spoilt because of the left over on teeth's and can also smell. So that can make his friends to avoid him because he doesn't know how to take care, you are supposed to brush your teeth after chewing miraa.

Int: Do you have any opinion; ok what about this issue of relationships, how is it? Boys and girls relationship or men to women or men to men how is it?

Resp4: There is something bad here, you can find a girl and you talk to her and start a relationship with her but there are some men who are very greedy. (Laughter from the background)

Int: What do you mean?

Resp4: There are some adults who are very greedy because he has a wife and he doesn't get certified, he wants the same girl that

you want. So he will plan with other people to time you while passing to be beaten, so that he can remain with that girl.

Int: You mean?

Resp4: Some men are not good because they don't want to see you advance in life. (Laughter from the background)

Int: How, to advance how?

Resp4: When you have a girl he also want that girl, you will think that you have met your age mate, but that man will plan with other people and you will be beaten.

Int: He plans to attack you with?

Resp4: With boys, then they attack you that is a problem.

Int: Ok

Resp4: This issue of girls you know they are the ones who attract boys, you may find a girl washing clothes while putting on a miniskirt so when she bends down and the skirt comes up a bit. If you look at a boy where he is he will be catch with "vijinyambwa" (Laughter from the background) So you will just go and catch that girl and rape her and you know the mistake will not be on your side but on the girl side because she showed that she wants to be given. (Laughter from the background)

Int: You said that men also take girls?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Why do you think men take girls?

Resp5: Because they don't get satisfied. (Laughter from the background)

Resp8: I think there are girls who want people who have money for instance that boy can have a girlfriend and there is a man who have money, because you are just an ordinary person who don't have money and that man has money she will go to that man.

Int: What opinion do you have about what this boy has said? That girls are after men because of money?

Resp2: Yes it is true.

Int: Ok, are their boys who are relationship with mothers or boys who go to mother?

Resp: Yes in unison.

Int: Mmm

Resp4: It is because of money, you can find a boy leaving with a mother because he fear doing work, and they also leave with a sugar mummy to take care of him. That is why they follow old mothers.

Int: Is there story that men also engage in men to men relationship?

Resp4: I have not heard of that here, maybe it happens with white people. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Maybe what?

Resp4: Maybe where white men live. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok, is there prostitution here?

Resp4: Yes

Int: It is there can you explain to me about it? Who does it and why

Resp4: You know in this our area there was two men one was called Mato and the other Masha. Mato was killed when he went to steal and Masha liked girls very much so girls were coming from Dandora, Kariobangi and even Kalkun they come here three girls and he is just alone so I was wondering whether he tires. (Laughter from the background) There was day he was caught and taken to jail and up to now he still in jail.

Int: What about the girls from this place, do they also do that?

Resp5: Yes, in Korogocho girls are spoilt.

Int: Korogocho?

Resp5: We can say almost ninety percent.

Int: Mmm

Resp3: It is true, here in Korogocha girls and boys after completing class eight they see themselves as grown ups. That mostly happens to Kikuyus because when a boy completes class eight he is taken for circumcision and his mother give him a house that will make him think he is older and even drop out of school. So that brings prostitution.

Int: Ok

Resp6: Another thing that contribute to prostitution is that when a girl sees her friend has money and she has bought a smart clothe she will admire, and since she doesn't have money she will join prostitution to get money so that she can buy a piece of clothe like her friend.

Int: Mmm

Resp6: Also job lead to prostitution, some girls are educated and some failed in examinations, they know they can't get employment so they join prostitution to get money because getting a job is a problem.

Int: Ok

Resp7: I can also say poverty, when a parent is unable to pay school fees a girl can join prostitution, since a girl can attract a boy easily so she will do prostitution to get school fees, so poverty can also cause. Hunger can also cause prostitution

because when somebody is hungry and you don't have anything to eat, she will go to a boy to give her.

Int: What were you saying?

Resp7: I was saying hunger, can also lead to prostitution because when one is hungry she can't stay that way, she will go to a boy to give her lunch, but you know there is nothing for free in this world. (Laughter from the background) Everything has payment if you want you be given or you go that way so it will force you.

Int: Ok, when boys are getting in love relationship say they are going to the sugar mummies, what problems do occur afterwards?

Resp8: You can't know the health status of sugar mummy when somebody is getting in a relationship with her, she might be HIV positive or be infected with STIs and she convince you to do sex with her you can be infected with those diseases, like syphilis you know it is hard to know syphilis you will just see her with black spots and think that they are rushes but it is syphilis. So when you are doing sex your skin gets in contact with hers then you will get infected and you start suffering.

Int: Ok, what did you want to say?

Resp3: I wanted to say that this sugar mummies, maybe having husband who is not able to impregnated her so maybe she just want to

do sex with you and get a baby and cheat his husband then she sends you away.

Int: Another problem that occur?

Respl: These sugar mummies also make people loose dignity; because she can call a person like me in her house they you do afterwards you maybe infected with a disease and lose dignity and maybe you were a respected person.

Int: What problems do occur in boys and girls if they do prostitution the way you have said? What problems do they face?

Respl: To boys?

Int: I mean in girls, when they do prostitution?

Respl: They get diseases.

Int: Mmm...another person, what happens in these relationships?

Respl: It can lead to death, maybe the man can bring boys to beat you and kill you.

Int: Mmm

Resp2: It can happen that a girl is still in school then she gets in a relationship with a boy and she gets pregnant that can cause her to drop out of school, and hinder from completing school.



Int: Ok, he has said you getting pregnant and you drop out of school, what else can happen? Do they get married?

Resp2: Yes, some if you look at her she is a girl and also a mother, so she goes to school and goes to her boyfriend that is how the system is.

Int: Mmm

Resp6: In my former school where I was studying there was a girl who came from upcountry and when she reached Nairobi she joined bad company and that made her sat KCPE while she was pregnant, and she got less marks that could not take her anywhere so she was just forced to go to the father of her child.

Int: She came and did examination?

Resp4: Yes, and she got two hundred and six and you know that can't take you to any secondary school. She was asked whether she can repeat, but she said she would just go to the father of her baby.

Int: Is she still pregnant now?

Resp7: Yes she has a big pregnancy.

Int: Fine, is there something like abortion, say for the girls who do prostitution when they get pregnant?

Resp8: Yes, when she gets pregnant and she doesn't want her mother to know she will go and tell her close friend, then her friend will advice her to go and do abortion so that it is not known.

Int: Ok

Resp2: I have a question?

Int: Ask

Resp2: How do they perform abortion while the foetus has not grown big and I have not seen them going for operation?

Int: Let me hear from your opinion, he has asked a question?

Resp1: Ask again maybe they have not heard clearly. (Laughter from the background)

Resp2: The girls who get pregnant and do abortion before the foetus has grown big, how do they do abortion and I have not heard that they went to the hospital to do it; I only hear that they did it?

Int: You explain.

Resp3: This one is saying that there are medicines that they drink.

Int: Mmm....like which ones?

Resp3: I don't know how it is called, but they drink a certain medicine and it kills the foetus and it comes out.

Int: Mmm.....

Resp3: some do drink tealeaves.

Int: Tealeaves how?

Resp3: They take a lot of tealeaves and mix with water, a very bitter solution then they drink and it removes.

Int: Mmm

Resp4: I hear that those who drink those medicines, it kills the baby and it will also affect the mother of that child

Int: He has asked a question?

Resp4: Yes it will affect the .....how is it called ova.

Resp5: Foetus.

Resp3: Not foetus

Resp4: That thing that she produce, eggs, it can spoil it that when she get another man to marry she won't be able to give birth because she had spoil herself.

Int: It's fine, what story do you have on this issue of getting unintended pregnancy here in slums? What can you say about it?

Resp6: Doing abortion pregnant?

Int: No, getting pregnant..... Unintended to girls?

Resp5: Mostly it is that a girl gets to know more and starts to dress like others then she attracts a man.

Resp7: Some girls drink alcohol, and then her action is influenced by alcohol and later when she goes to do a test she finds that she is pregnant.

Int: Another person with a different opinion or who wants to explain further, about these unintended pregnancies? Have you seen some girls getting pregnant early here in the slum, maybe you were studying together?

Resp5: I have a friend who was called Njoki she was leaving in this same area but on the lower side she completed class eight and proceeded to form one in a boarding school, so during holidays when she came home she did sex with a wrong person and got pregnant and when she gave birth she said that after the baby has grown a little bit she will leave the baby with her mother and go back to school, you see that also make girls to feel like going back to school.

Int: Do you have friends that have impregnated girls?

Resp5: Yes

Int: Explain to me?

Resp5: You know it is lust, and a person has feelings and you don't know how to avoid, so you'll just go and impregnate somebody.

It is because you don't know how to avoid feelings; if you can know at least even if it is through prayers it can be good

Int: Ok, another person?

Resp1: Somebody has said that Kikuyus after circumcision parents leave them and they feel that they are mature, so when a friend comes and tell you that there is a party somewhere and girls are there, you will find yourself sleeping with somebody's daughter and impregnating her.

Int: Ok, how do boys feel when they impregnate somebody?

Resp2: You know when they sleep with girls they feel nice, but when a girl comes to him and tell him that she is pregnant they deny, and tell the girl that he doesn't know who she is, even if the parents come with policemen the boy will still deny that she doesn't know that girl, so the policemen and her parents will believe the boy. When they leave, the boy will be happy because the money that he was supposed to give out for the baby's up keep he will use.

Int: Ok, who else wanted to talk? How do boys feel when they impregnate girls?

Resp1: Somebody does not know when he impregnates a girl.

Int: Let's say you have been informed with the girl?

Resp3: At that time many things cross your mind because maybe you don't have a job, it will force you to run away after you get good life you will come back and look for her.

Int: What do people say in the slum, about the boys who impregnate the girls?

Resp3: Some people will praise you. (Laughter from the background)  
They say that you are a great boy who is above others.

Resp4: Some praise you so much that you go on raping somebody's girl, so you rape them because you are praised.

Resp5: The people who praise the boy knew how the girl was behaving maybe she was disrespectful to them or boasting, so when she gets pregnant, the villagers and neighbors will praise the boy how he did a good thing by impregnating that girl because she was boasting to them.

Int: Ok, you told me about your friend who gave birth to a baby and the other one who did, what does a girl do when she realizes that she is pregnant?

Resp6: Majorly they abort but others hide until they give birth is when you will start seeing them.

Int: They run away?

Resp6: Yes

Int: When they give birth what do they do, you told me that they put in a paper?

Resp7: Some put in a paper and throw away.

Int: Mmm.....what do others do?

Resp7: Some after giving birth dresses the baby smart and place at the grocery shop when you come in the morning you find a baby there. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Mmm

Resp8: Some do sell the baby to the family that maybe a mother is barren and also her husband and they want a baby, they just look for such a family until they get and sell to them.

Resp7: one of us said about selling the baby, you know it is bad that God can curse in a way that you will never impregnate a girl or give birth forever

Int: When a boy impregnates a girl and he is informed, you said that some of them deny, what do others do?

Resp8: Some start preparing they don't deny, because maybe the boy is older and he has gone through life experience than the girl he will understand and take the baby and the girl so that they start staying together, but others are foolish they won't understand.

Resp5: They don't deny willingly but they deny because of the problems that they undergo.

Int: Others do what?

Resp3: I agree with this boy that they don't deny willingly because if you'll be depending on construction work you can't survive, and you are waiting for the salary at the end of the month, where will you eat beans and in the afternoon you are also expected to be at work. If you keep on borrowing you will find that the money you are working for is less than what you have consumed.

Int: What problems do girls who give birth face when taking care of the baby, you told me of a girl?

Resp4: The problem that she has is that she is willing to go to school but she cannot because of the baby and she doesn't stroll out, I only see her when she is going to buy rice and she goes back. If she goes out for a short time her sisters call her that the baby is crying so she will just be there to look after the baby when she is crying she will breast feed her until she sleeps?

Int: Ok

Resp4: Her friends look down upon her that they don't even want to see her and also the boy who impregnated her is not seen.

Int: Ok

Resp4: He was arrested

Resp3: Yes friends do not want her anymore.



Int: Ok

Resp3: She is also shy that even if she wants something from outside, she will just send somebody.

Int: Other problems that you see?

Resp6: You know she gave birth while she is at there home so her mother will keep on insulting her.

Int: Why does she insult her?

Resp6: She is insulting her because the budget in the house has gone up

Int: Freedom, a girl before she got pregnant she was strolling with her friends maybe up to 7.00pm but now she can't get out, she is just in the house looking after the baby and getting bored.

Int: Any other problems that you see?

Resp6: Insults from the parent, you know when she has given birth she can't go to stroll and when she goes and come back at 7.00pm she will be insulted by her mother until she feels like killing the baby, and that is why some of them do abortion.

Int: Tell us about the challenges?

Resp6: He never finished.

Int: Another person can talk as he thinks?

Resp: (Cross talk)

Int: What problems do these girls undergo?

Resp7: I can't say that it is a problem that they face because it is something that they went looking for with their own legs or the devil controls them because they know very well that this is a bad thing but they go and do.

Int: Ok

Resp7: I can say that some are in that situation unwilling, maybe thieves have come to steal at your place and they find your sister they will rape her. (Laughter from the background)

Int: Let's hear.

Resp7: Maybe your mother is a Christian and she tells you to keep the baby until you give birth, so it is not their wish.

Int: Mmm

Resp7: If it is rape people will understand because it is not only your house that thieves will enter even the other houses they will break in, but there is a situation where a girl keep on strolling that she doesn't relax at any time in there house, in such a case she people should not feel sorry to her because she wanted it.

Int: What about this story of rape, how is it here, because everyone is saying rape does it happen here very much? Is it common?

Resp:3 It is not common here, maybe those sides of Grogon.

Resp2: That is biasness. (Laughter from the background)

Resp1: Not that way, you know Grogo girls dress bad you can find a girl putting on only skintight and a T-shirt that make boys from that area to admire them, very tight skintight that you even see the inner clothe so that will make a boy to have feelings and follow her slowly and when they reach a corner he will grab her and rape her.

Resp2: It is true that lust is a bad thing because I have seen a policeman passing next to our gate with a motorbike and saw a girl at our gate then she started making a sign... (Laughter from the background)

Int: Then?

Resp2: He was just passing with a motorbike, so I don't see people like that helping.

Resp1: You know these policemen perplex me so much because they know with Bila nobody can do to them anything and they always harass boys and arrest them. When you find them standing somewhere and a girl is passing where they are they will beat her on the buttocks or touch breast.

Int: They do that?

Resp1: Yes the policemen from Kariobangi, we see them when they come here. When a girl is sited on a motorbike they beat her on the buttocks.

Int: (Laughter) Now, do you have anything to say about the story of abortion? You said that it is common here in slums; do you have anything that you can add?

Resp4: We can say some girls have not matured because after giving birth some people say that the baby she has given birth to is not what she expected so she will throw her away and that can lead to you not getting a child again.

Int: Mmm

Resp4: Maybe a girl might be chewing miraa and smoking while pregnant and when she goes to the hospital for a test the doctor tells her that she will give birth to a baby that is weak, that will not be able to eat and will have a running nose all the time. So the girl will not wait for her time to give birth she will just do abortion because she will say that if she gives birth people will laugh at her or her husband may abandon her.

Int: Ok, there is somebody who talked about this thing, what makes girls to decide to do abortion?

Resp5: It is peer pressure, maybe one has done it so when her friend seeks for advice because she is pregnant she will tell her to go and do abortion. You know when they are many you can't know who has done abortion and who has not done it, so they will tell the girl that she should not behave like some who does

not know anything, that they have done it and the process is not difficult, that can make a girl to do abortion.

Int: What did you want to say?

Resp6: What make them to do abortion is the environmental condition because if they look at how getting a job is not easy, and everything is has risen in price, and with that in mind, the situation will cannot allow them to bring on another burden so they are forced to do abortion.

Int: Do you know of girls who have done abortion, but don't mention their names? Or maybe you have had of people saying. What do people say about doing abortion here in slum?

Resp7: I have not heard anybody talking about abortion in Korogocho, but raping and how girls dress is worse.

Int: What problems do those girls face when they want to do abortion?

Resp7: Sometimes a girl can be told that if she is pregnant she can take a certain medicine and she will have aborted the pregnancy, there was a pregnant lady in our school who was in form three, she knew she was pregnant but the stomach had not grown big, so she didn't know the quantity to take and took too much medicine then she died.

Int: Another person, what other problem do the girls face when they want to do abortion?

Resp4: When she does abortion for the first time it will be successful and the next also but when she gets pregnant for the third time even if she doesn't want to do abortion it will just occur.

Int: Who said if they use tealeaves it will abort, why not use other methods than that?

Resp7: That is just a belief.

Resp8: Some people if you look at how they live you will realize that they can't afford those medicines so they only see the simple way, which is buying tealeaves.

Resp7: Those are people who follow flag; they just do things because they heard that somebody did it, while they have never tried.

Int: Does the cost also contribute to a girl's decision to use tealeaves and not medicine bought from the chemist?

Resp: Yes.....in unison.

Resp6: Because they are not the ones to look for the money, they will go to their parents but the parent instead of giving her will tell her to go and give birth to the baby and bring to them and when she grows up they will see how to help her then the girl will see that she is not getting assistance from the parents so she will go to her boyfriend, who will agree to

give her money and when she is given she will go and buy those medicines and use them.

Int: What did you want to say?

Resp8: I wanted to say for example if a girl tells a boy that she is pregnant then the boy denies, and maybe the boy is poor and she has been told at the hospital that they want ten thousand and the boy is jobless she will be forced to do abortion.

Int: Ok, another person, say secret, can secrecy also make a girl do abortion using something so that people may not know?

Resp2: Only if she was a beautiful girl with dignity and she gets pregnant, she will not allow her dignity to be lowered and lose respect.

Int: Ok

Resp2: Some look at ahead because maybe she was known to be a born again Christian who was never absent in church on Saturday and Sunday, so when you get pregnant you will here people saying that see now a born again Christian is now pregnant. Say they were two girls one is bad and the other is good when the good girl becomes pregnant she will be ashamed you see, so that is why she just decides to do abortion.

Int: Two people have said that when a girl wants to do abortion she tells her friend, is there any other person that a girl can tell apart from her friend?

Resp1: No.

Int: Why can't she tell her mother?

Resp2: Because she trusts her friend's that they will keep it a secret.

Int: Mmm

Resp2: She can't tell her mother because maybe her mother will send her away, so she does not want to lose dignity.

Resp3: Some will tell their mother.

Int: Why?

Resp3: There are those who are loved by their mother that if they do a mistake they are just told not to repeat. So when she becomes pregnant and she tells her mother she will be pardoned because she does not want their dignity to be spoilt.

Int: Ok

Resp4: You know it is always like mother like daughter or like father like son, because you will find that the behavior that the mother had is same that the daughter has and the behavior that the father had is the behavior that the son has, so the father will understand him.

Int: Another person, be alert boys..... now what have I not ask about on this issue of abortion, that you want me to or something you want to add?



Ok, in your own opinion about these unintended pregnancies among these girls, how can they be prevented or reduced? Let's start with you as we go round.

Resp4: We should understand one another's problem that if she brings to you, you should see how to solve it.

Int: What kind of problem?

Resp5: Problems like hunger. When one comes to you that she is hungry you should help her without condition.

Int: Another person, everybody has his opinion, let's hear from everybody?

Resp6: By avoiding bad company of friends.

Int: Can you explain a bit?

Resp6: If you were strolling with a bad company of friends who were teaching you bad things you stop.

Int: Ok

Resp6: I can say that if you are a girl you should look for somebody to counsel you about feelings, avoiding lonely places and stop putting on clothes that attract boys. If you also have a bad boyfriend you avoid him.

Int7: I can tell boys that even if they want to do sex they should use protection like condoms that will prevent them from getting pregnant and STIs

Int: Ok

Resp7: I can say that boys and girl should know the consequences of prostitution, that if they do prostitution the outcome will be bad or good things.

Resp5: I have a question?

Int: Mmm

Resp5: Do condom burst?

Int: Let's hear from them? (Laughter from the background) He has asked a question?

Resp4: Yes, maybe a boy is using it for the first time and he doesn't know how to use it, he may insert his finger in it without knowing and tear it and he puts it on and use it not knowing that the sperms are entering in and the girl get pregnant without his knowledge.

Int: Ok, you have been answered, let's continue another opinion?

Resp3: Self-control, you should have self-control. Sometimes you can have feelings that you are not able to avoid, but you should have self-control.

Int: Mmm

Resp3: I would advise a girl that if she has a problem she should seek for assistance from a girl like her because she will understand her problem, and not to go to a boy because if she

goes to a boy and he does not understand her problem he will not get assistance but if you go to a person who face the same problem she will understand.

Int: Ok, yes boss what opinion do you have, how can we prevent the girls from getting unintended pregnancies? Let's hear.....as you think let's go to him?

Resp2: If there can be job, you can't hear of girl or a boy telling the other to have sex to be paid or do prostitution. If there would be job it can be a very good thing but there is no job here, and everything have risen in price so that brings the problem.

Int: Mmm

Resp6: Another thing is that when one is staying with parents she should be given a little freedom, you know some are restrained indoor and when she gets time with a friend she is tolled that she is always indoor as they have good time with other friends, so when you are given that chance you will chose to go or not

Int: Ok

Resp4: I would like to say that the children from rich family are taught bad things by their parents that they even go to the club, because if the father and mother wants to go to the disco and they have one child and there is nobody to look

after her they will go with her to the disco, and the mother may ask her baby what she want then the baby says that one without knowing what she is asking for, since the mother is drunk she will just say give her and the baby is given then she gets drunk and sleeps.

Int: (Laughter).....Lets continue?

Resp4: I can tell them to abstain.

Int: Ok

Resp4: I can say that also parents are bad, for instance a woman can give birth and she is still a girl, she will be putting on long trousers and maybe she has a baby girl. If she continue with putting on long trouser and her child is growing she will also dress her a baby girl with long trouser so when the girl is grown up she will also want to put on long trouser because she is use to.

Int: What is the problem with a pair of trousers?

Resp4: You know when a girl starts putting on long trouser it is just that way.

Int: How, let him finish?

Resp4: You know when a girl puts on long trouser this part goes like this, and when a boy sees that he will feel like raping her.

Int: Ok

Resp5: You know what entice a boy when a girl puts on a long trouser is how her buttocks move, you can find them moving like this or that, and the boy starts wondering as he says..... wa!wa!wa!  
(Laughter from the background)

Int: Ok

Resp6: I can say that people should test themselves and know their health status because you can have a hidden disease and you don't know and when you know you will find out what to do with that disease.

Int: Now I want to hear stories of boys who have impregnated girls and girls who have been impregnated, like he told us his story, is there any other person who has a story, maybe concerning a boy who was your classmate, and impregnated a girl, or a girl who was your classmate and got pregnant. Is there anybody with a story who can tell us so that we can hear how it was? Is there anybody?

Resp6: I don't have.

Int: (Laughter) is there anybody, tell me don't be afraid?

Resp: (Silence)

Int: I don't want you to mention somebody's name just say how the story was.

Resp: Silence

Int: Ok, if there is nobody then we are thankful for you time.

