

When Awareness Isn't Enough: Nursing Students Probe Teenage Pregnancy in Buug

The Level IV BS in Nursing students of MSU-Buug successfully conducted a research study **on** “Teenage Pregnancy Awareness and Its Perceived Consequences Among High School Students in Public Schools in Buug, Zamboanga Sibugay.”

A total of 273 students, aged 12 to 22 years, were selected through stratified random sampling. Inclusion criteria required current enrollment and consent to participate.

Key findings revealed a moderate overall awareness of teenage pregnancy. Awareness was significantly higher among female students, older adolescents, and those in higher grade levels. Religion was found to be inversely related to health awareness, while family structure and sources of information showed no significant influence.

Students demonstrated greater awareness of the social and economic consequences of teenage pregnancy compared to the health risks and available support services.

The study is particularly relevant as Zamboanga Sibugay has been noted as one of the provinces with the highest cases of teenage pregnancy. In conclusion, while adolescents exhibited moderate awareness, important knowledge gaps remain, especially regarding health risks and support mechanisms.

To address these gaps, the MSU-Buug Nursing Department has formulated an extension program targeting secondary high schools in Buug. This program aims to strengthen reproductive health education through culturally appropriate and gender-sensitive approaches, thereby empowering young people to make informed decisions.

A copy of the study was formally provided to the participating public schools and to the Division Office to help inform future programs and policies addressing adolescent reproductive health.





