

THE PLACE OF SEX EDUCATION IN MINISTERING TO THE TEENAGER IN

OGBOMOSO REDEEMERS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

An Essay in the Department of Theology, Faculty of Theological Studies  
The Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomoso, Nigeria  
In Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the  
Award of the Degree of Master of Divinity

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MATRIC NO: 11/0040

JUNE, 2016.

## Abstract

This study was carried out to look into the place of sex education in ministering to the teenagers in Ogbomoso Redeemers Baptist Association. For detailed study of the variable needed for the research, the research was limited in scope to Ogbomoso Redeemers Association, in Ogbomoso Baptist Conference. The purpose of the study is to address the problems associated with the pre-marital sex among the teenagers, to assess the effect of sexual immorality in the teenagers and to examine the current responses of the church to sexual immorality among the teenagers in our churches. Literatures were reviewed about (i) what sex education is (ii) the Christian views about sexual immorality (iii) the cultural views about sexual immorality (iv) the Biblical views about sexual immorality (v) the need for sex education in ministering to the teenagers (vi) the place of sex education in ministering to the teenagers. Data was collected through questionnaire. The research finding(s) revealed that sex education is very important to the spiritual growth of the teenagers. Also, sex is no longer a sacred issue which cannot be discussed in the church. Equally teenagers prefer asking their friends to parents about sexual matters. People's views have been changed positively to give sex education a rightful position it deserves in ministering to the teenagers. From the findings, the researcher made the following recommendations that will enhance sex education in ministering to the teenagers. There is need for local churches to organize seminars, workshops, for teenagers workers. Pastors should have it in mind that those assigned to take care of the teenagers should have genuine spiritual rebirth.

## 5.2 Conclusion

In this write up, the researcher has been able to observe that the need for sex education in ministering to the teenagers cannot be over-emphasized because, teenagers show a wide variation in physical maturation and demonstrate various attitude towards the physical changes.

They also showed a wide variation in social maturation which becomes a problem because culture and community expectations are high.

Youths love pleasure and have insatiable sexual drive especially the boys. These characteristics have constituted such as big human sexuality problem to the extent that our teenagers need sex education activities.

Our cultural values and norms are being rapidly eroded by technological changes and mass media bombardment. Christian ethics and heritage (holiness) is now at risk among our teenagers, unfortunately family life and sex education have not been deeply noted in ministering to teenagers in some churches.

At this stage, the adolescences are eager to know about their own development and that of opposite sex. They deserve to understand what constitutes maleness and femaleness without any embarrassment.

Hence, to effectively tackle sexual immorality in the church and society, all hands must be on deck.

Sex education should be a shared responsibility because, the youths are tomorrow's leaders.

Finally, the fact is that very soon, there will be a major well-pronounced shift from age-long misinterpretation of sex to a more positive understandable attitude towards sex, and this will affect sex education in our ministering to the teenagers in Ogbomoso Redeemers' Baptist Association.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

In order to achieve a change in the ways parents, church leaders, and church workers view and perceive sex education; the researcher after series of discovery on the research carried out gives the following recommendations with references to teenagers, youths, parents, church leaders and church in Ogbomoso Redeemers' Baptist Association.

1. Ogbomoso Redeemers' Baptist Association through its churches should ensure that all pastors, Christian educators and other Christian leaders are educated on the issues of sex.

2. Parents should be conscious of the period the teenagers are mostly in need of sex education. This is the period when teenagers normally question the adults. Parents should take time to study and profer solutions to these children's problem.
3. Teenagers should not be ashamed of themselves to ask any questions pertaining to sex from their parents, they are in good positions to lead them a right with guidance from God. Children should be free to their parents especially, with their mothers.
4. Sex education should be given prompt attention if the church would be readily to mould the lives of the teenagers in our local churches. In order to do this, there is need for knowledgeable and understandable personnel who are to be working with teenagers in our churches. Teenagers feel like relating with persons who are ready to listen and consider them. The church is the appropriate place to take up sex education since it will be able to balance the equation between the moral and spiritual life.
5. Parents should start educating their children right from childhood, so that sexual problems is minimal at a younger age.
6. A number of books, pamphlets, magazines, films and tape recorded materials should be made available for use. These materials should be in-put with information on the need to abstain or run away from pre-marital sex, effect of abortion, the wrath of God against fornications and so on.
7. There is also need for individual local churches, associations, conferences and convention at large to organize seminars, workshops, retreats and open – air crusades centered on sex education in ministering to teenagers.

8. More also, church leaders should design a means through which attention will be given to individual children or teenagers in order to take care of individual differences.
9. There is need for church, pastors to examine those who will be working with teenagers on the basis of spiritual re-birth. Anyone that will be chosen to be working with teenagers must be genuinely born again, have fear of God and have a sound salvation experience.
10. Moreover, teachers and workers working with the teenagers should make use of language that they would understand and not using dirty language that may be a sort of embarrassment for the teenagers. Teaching of moral and spiritual life will help the teenagers to know how to relate well with opposite sex.