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**OPINIONS REGARDING
PRE-MARITAL SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS
AMONG LIBERIAN YOUTHS**

A Degree Essay
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by

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CONCLUSION

As a result of the research carried out among a cross representation (both in and out of Liberia) of Liberian youth, it now tends to prove that Liberian youth (according to themselves) are involved in premarital sex for these underline reasons: the biological changes that occur in the body which tend to control the emotions, social influence which comes as a result of peer pressure ("I must be part of the group"), the old African fairy tales (mentality) that if one does not have sex he or she is likely to get sick and if care is not taken it might lead to death, the parental pressure young people receive from their African parents especially their mothers who want to behold their own grand children as others, which forces the boy or girl into an unprepared relationship. And in addition, African parents expect 'too much too soon' from their teenage girls. They expect them to now support the family. This places them under an obligation against their wills and wishes. Some end up having sexual relationship with a man who could as equally serve as a father or grand father unto them ("god-pa & god-ma").

Yet, on the other hand, some teenage girls see it as a prestige and honour "to go out" with such dignitaries who would have them in cars, give them money, buy them the best wearings, etc.

While it is true that God has placed the sexual capability in every man, it should be equally emphasized that He wills that it'd be conducted in its proper context - marriage. Young people need to observe sexual abstinence while awaiting marriage when all things could be lawfully done.

On the other hand, parents need to remember that these young ones are "coming to where they have been". For this, they should rather, guide them carefully against those pitfalls and things that will make life bitter for them when they have become adults. Parents also need to remember that these young ones have their own life to live, of which they will be accounted for before their creator (II Cor. 5:10) There will be no time to answer for them.