

# Young faith actors voices and thoughts on SRHR

## Scriptures, Perspectives, ideas, and conversation starters.

The information shared here was obtained from an interfaith discussion that RYV organized in Nairobi. Instead of providing a thorough analysis of every topic, we hope that these notes will give you, the reader, some ideas, opinions, and conversation starters. We hope that the concepts discussed here will make you consider your own beliefs, particularly those that contradict your own. We adore such.



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EMPOWERED. ACTIVATED. ENGAGED

# Matthew 5:13

13 “You are the salt of the earth.....”



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# Teenage pregnancy

## Societal issue causing teenage pregnancy:

- Its cultural norm/communal.
- Poor parenting.
- Discrimination.
- Its illegal.

## Teenage pregnancy occur because of:

- Peer pressure
- Absence of parental guidance
- Failure of contraception
- Poor parenting and discrimination.

- Teenage pregnancy is a harmful practice for an individual, and religion is against it.
- It's influenced by circumstance.



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# Teenage pregnancy

## Problems associated with teenage pregnancy

- Health risks.
- Economic challenges
- School drop outs
- Stigma.
- Poverty.
- Family breakdown—single parents

Teenage pregnancy occurs between 13–19 years

Religious statements used to justify thoughts about teenage pregnancy

- Romans 12:1: temple of God and the Holy spirit
- Genesis 9:1:
- Quran Al Isra 32: Lower your gaze do not approach fornication.

What young interfaith leaders say can be done:

- Education (cse) sensitization
- Guidance and counselling eg sanitary towels
- Poverty eradication
- Advocate for better policies.
- Peer education
- Intergenerational guidance



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# Abortion

Exodus 20:5.....you should not kill

Abortion is not allowed...should not kill...Exo 20:5

Allowed at some point depending on circumstances....Jer 1:5: Wombs are sacred..... "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Abortion is immoral & unjust. when and if done in an "intentional way..

Allowed with exception, sacred life



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# Abortion

Termination below 28 weeks.  
Exodus 21:22-25: protection of life.

Abortion should be done on the ground of emergency if the life of the mother is at risk.

What can be done to prevent unsafe OR UNNECESSARY abortion:

- Punishing offenders who help facilitate unsafe abortion.
- Proper certification of medics....
- Involve law enforcement.



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# Sexual and Gender Based Violence

**Young Faith actors believe SGBV is Not acceptable, it is an abomination.**

## **What can be done to address the SGBV:**

- Enhance parental care: Psalms 12:3 " The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things"
- Families should raise their voice against SGBV as written romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God":::Roman 6:23...."for the wages of sin is death...."
- Restore norms which promote mutual respect...
- Encourage taking up disputes to legal matters.

## **Scripture references for Ideas on SGBV**

- GAL 5:23
- Judges 19:21
- Exodus 21:
- Prov 22:6
- Ps 12:7.
- Rom.6:23
- Gen 34—Dinah...shechem
- Rape of Tamar woman by Ammon
- Justice—Judges 19.

Quran Marital issue...In Islam, A man may deny wife conjugal rights as means of punishment....beat her very lightly....or even dissolve the marriage.



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# Female Genital Mutilation



Not accepted.



Cultures: participate  
religious practice



Some cultures are  
hard to separate.



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# What do young faith actors think can be done about these things amongst us?

- Open discussions.
- Restore norms
- Promote family planning

- Respect and communication, and follow-up.
- Legal matters.
- Raise our voices

- Accept and accommodate each other
- Counselling



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# Reflections regarding expectations in an SRHR interfaith dialogue:



The role of youth pastors in SRHR advocacy and what to expect of me after the training.



Broaden my mind and also get empowered in order to empower adolescents and young people on SRHR.



To learn and to add value to myself and others.

**HOW CAN WE BRING HEAVEN ON EARTH?**



How to deliver the information learnt today.



Interact and learn amongst the young people.



To learn about easier ways to engage the young people, the millennials, under my leadership.



To learn more about SRHR.

# Reflections regarding expectations in an SRHR interfaith dialogue:



Learn how to talk openly.....  
Know how to assist teenagers especially in the area of my profession...exchange ideas.



To learn from the experiences of others.



Understand my role after the meeting.



Enhance SRHR advocacy integrated with faith based values.



To network and learn from the young adolescents.



Gain knowledge on SRHR, discuss sensitive topics, discuss clarifications, misconceptions and advocate for the rights.



To get inspiration regarding how to handle SRHR and empower people around my circles.



To be empowered and motivated together with networking.

# Message to non faith actors:



There is more bible study to be done. Understanding scriptures and their logics will help us build more landscapes of mutual understanding and allies.



No scripture is a stand alone and all challenges in society have a mention directly or indirectly in our holy books.



Faith actors live in the communities as we do. Together we can solve all the problems in our society.