

A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY IN THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF TEENAGE MOTHER: BASIS IN E-DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURIAL EMPOWERMENT

MARILYN P. PIELAGO, EdD

marilynpielago@lspu.edu.ph

Laguna State Polytechnic University, Sta. Cruz, Laguna, 4009, Philippines

Abstract

Teenage mothers faced adversities and struggles as a mother and as students and remained more steadfast and more resilient in fulfilling their dreams to finish their collegiate degree and receive a university diploma. It is very important for teenage mother to develop their skills and interest to empower themselves as entrepreneur.

The researchers investigated how individuals adjust to and deal with their circumstances as adolescent mothers, as well as their lived experiences in terms of economic, physical, psychological, social, and spiritual factors, as well as the factors that contribute to their development.

Teenage mothers' lived experiences give them the courage and determination to complete their education, reduce poverty, and be able to stand on their own two feet. They want to help their family by working and earning money abroad in the hopes of a better career opportunity and a higher salary.

Teenage mothers, on the other hand, are more concerned with business than with employment. The government must work together to promote entrepreneurship as a means of expanding the economy and lifting people out of poverty. It is one method of reducing the number of teenage mothers who choose to work abroad that the government should raise awareness about government-funded programs for start-up entrepreneurs.

Key words: Teenage mothers, Economic, Physical, Psychological, Social, Spiritual, support from the family, Finish education, Self -Determination to Succeed.

Introduction

Motherhood is a significant and important part of the lives of many women all over the world. Motherhood is regarded as essential to a woman's identity in communities where motherhood is highly desired. Teenage motherhood is associated with negative social, economic, physical, and psychological outcomes and occurs during a critical developmental stage in a teenager's life.

The global fertility rate of adolescents aged 15 to 19 years is reported to be 50 per 1,000 (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the number of adolescents in this age group is approximately 600 million (United Nations, 2019; UNICEF, 2017; World Health Organization [WHO], 2020); thus, it can be estimated that the number of adolescents giving birth is approximately 30 million.

Teenage pregnancy rates have been rising in the Philippines and mostly affect the young mothers negatively. They often have to quit school and be financially dependent on their parents. They are a stigmatized group and to understand their situation you have to comprehend how the context in the Philippines comes to affect them. (Durrani, R., & Nielsen, A. (2019)

According to Evans (2010). The life of student's mother is no easy feat they have to juggle their time between attending their classes, making their requirements, taking care of their child and taking care of the house. They become the primary care giver of the child and are expected to rear their child well.

Furthermore, Garcia et al (2021), stated that, Teen mothers are often perceived as having inadequate coping skills and social supports. There is no doubt that teen mothers are caught between separating from their families and the need for help in child rearing. Teenage mothers faced adversities and struggles as a mother and as students and remained more steadfast and more resilient in fulfilling their dreams to finish their collegiate degree and receive a university diploma.

The options of getting a degree, owning a business and success in all its various forms are not impossible. Continuing to have hopes and goals is important for the teenage mother, because it provides her with inspiration and motivation to ensure the life of her child- and her own life- is happy and healthy one (Robinson, 2014).

It is very important for teenage mother to develop their skills and interest to empower themselves as entrepreneur. As pointed by Lazear (2014) entrepreneur are jack of all trades who need a broad mixture of skills to be successful.

Methods

This study used Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA), a qualitative approach that aims to provide a detailed study. It is about personal lived experiences in the account of its period rather than one suggested from pre-existing theoretical presumptions. It recognizes that this is an interpretative attempt for people who are making sense in terms of experience and development. Before the transition to more general statements in its approach to examining each case's detailed experience, it is specifically idiographic. Interpretative Phenomenological analysis (IPA) can be useful as a methodology on topics such as phenomenon, which involves psychosomatic interaction that is hard to articulate, convoluted, vague, and emotionally burdened (Smith & Osborn, 2015).

Results

The summary of the demographic characteristics of the participants

Participants	Age when they gave birth	No. of Child/children	Civil status
P-1	17	1	Solo parent
P-2	17	2	married
P-3	19	1	married
P-4	18	1	Live-in
P-5	19	1	Solo parent
P-6	17	1	live- in

The following sections summarize the results gathered from the in-depth interviews. The findings of this study are laid out in themes found within the interview of each participant. These findings are organized with different sections that cover various aspects of the lived experiences of Teenage mothers. These aspects include their Economic, physical, psychological, spiritual and social experienced. Each section is further grouped into themes, which are derived from the responses of the participants. Themes are listed with their frequencies, in descending order of prevalence. Moreover, direct quotations are provided by various participants to further discuss each theme or domain.

Lived Experienced of Teenage mother in Terms of Economic

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Theme
P-1,5 and 6	Dependent to parents	Dependency
P-2	Dependent to husband	
P-3 and 4	Part time job	

The table above shows the participants responses regarding on their lived experiences in terms of economic. On the question of “What is your lived experiences in terms of Economic? Participants no.1 responded” good am po ma'am sa parents lang po muna ako naasa kahit nakakahiya.” Participants no.2 responded “Sa ngayon po wala kasi nag-aalaga ng mga anak. Ang asawa ko lang po may work” Participants no 3 responded “Nag pe-freelance make-up artist po ako maam” participants no.4 responded “ “ako po nagaalaga sa Lola ko kasi Hindi na po nakakalakad mag isa tapos Yung tito at tita ko po na nsa abroad ang nagpapasweldo po sa akin, dati po kasi nsa pila po kami sa side po ng partner ko tapos po nung na mild stroke po ang Lola ko pinakiusapan po ako ng tito at tita ko na dito na nga po kami tumira sa side ko po para maalagaan ko po ang Lola at swelduhan na lang daw po nila ako.”and participants no 5. Responded ““Sa ngayon po sa magulang ko muna pero pa minsan natulong po ako sa family business.”.Participant no6 “ Mam Mahirap po kasi dto kami nakatira sa parents ko, kahit maywork naman ang boyfriend ko,kailangan ko pa ring ipakisama sa pamilya ko, napakahirap mam kahit kakaanak ko lang sinisipagan kung mag online selling para pandagdag sa gastusin”

Based on the responses provided by the participants, it can be deduced that their lived experiences as a teenage mother in terms of Economic poses challenges, as supported by their responses that it is quite difficult for them in the aspect of their lives due to the challenges in the dependency on their parents and husband or partner. It is a challenge in their everyday lives.

It is supported by the study of Hofferth (2017) Adolescent child bearers earned less than later child bearers or those childless at all follow-ups. An early birth increases family size, which reduces the proportion of years worked and the hours worked last year, which reduces earnings at age 27. At early birth reduces schooling, which reduces the proportion of years worked and reduces hours and earnings at age 27. Adding all the effects up, early age at first birth is associated with reduced earnings, but this is because it is associated with reduced schooling and increased family size.

Lived Experienced of Teenage Mother in terms of Physical

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Theme
1- 6	Gaining weight after giving birth	Insecurity
1-3	Hard time for new responsibilities	
4-6	Attending classes while breastfeeding their child	

The table above shows the participants responses regarding on their lived experiences in terms of physical, Participants no. 1” Bigla akong tumaba at nanibago sa itsura ko since nag breastfeeding po ako hanggang ngayon.Hindi makatulog ng maayos,napaka hirap mag-alaga ng bata po lalo na ng baby” ,P- 2 Nagging conscious ako kasi lumaki akong masyado physically. Umiiyak sa gabi nung mga first week kasi hirap mag-alaga ng bata.sguro part yon nung tinatawag na postpartum.P- 3 I experienced gaining weight and challenges of several responsibilities the worst is nag falling hair po ako P- 4. Siguro pareho din ng ibang mommy mam,bigla akong nag gain ng weight tapos need pang kumain lagi kasi breasfeed ang baby ko, habang na attend ng klase nag be breastfeed kaya pag need mag open ng cmera talagang mukha ko lang ang nakikita.P- 5 Nahirapan ako sa bagong responsibilidad ko,pagkatapos manganak,although my parents are supportive and P- 6 “ Kitang kita mam ang paglaki ng katawan ko lalo na pag kasama k kambal ko kasi need ko kumain ng kumain kasi nag breast feed yung baby ko,mahirap pag may klase at gutom pa nawawala concentration ko sa pag- aaral kaya laging naka off camera ko, lalo napag need mag pa dede”. Kapag kasama ko ang kambal ko, na iinsecure ako kasi sya straight hair, makinis ang mukha tapos ako parang biglang tumanda

The statements of the participants is supported by the study of Sodi, E (2012) The adolescent mother has numerous parental responsibilities as well as taking care of her own educational and developmental needs. Adolescent parenthood has been associated with school dropout, unemployment, poverty and poor parenting outcomes.

Adolescents exposed to maternal depression are more vulnerable to depressive symptoms. Less is known on the mediating role of children's self-worth construction processes, particularly those related to physical appearance. (Li, M., & Mustillo, S. 2020).

Body image in adolescent mothers is formed by their thoughts and feelings about how their bodies appear. Unfortunately, teenagers' perceptions of how other people perceive their appearance frequently influence their own body image.

Lived Experienced of Teenage Mother in terms of Psychological

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Theme
Participants 3 and 5	told to their parents personally about the situation	Stress
Participant no.1-2-	They experienced to be judged by their family and community	
Participant no 4	Personally asked permission to their parents	
Participant 6	Sexual harassment	Guilt

Participants face difficulties in their situation as a result of the questions in the table. Some of the difficulties they mentioned were that after learning she was pregnant, she was judged by her family and community, and that their parents were shocked to learn of the situation, despite the fact that the participants had the courage to tell their parents. Aside from that, they face the additional challenge of being concerned that her parents will become enraged.

Participant No. 6 also broke her silence during the interview, stating that from the age of 8 to 16, she and her twin were sexually harassed by his brother by touching sensitive parts of their bodies, which is why she chose to become pregnant with her boyfriend, believing that this was the only way to stop his brother's harassment. I caught from her statement "Nakaranas po kami ng kambal ko ng sexual harassment sa kuya ko,kaya po ako nagpasya na magpa buntis na sa boyfriend ko kasi baka po mapahamak pa kami sa kamay nya"nagsumbong po kami sa magulang ko pero pinagaitan lang tapos parang ordinary day na kinabukasan, nakaisip din po ako magpakamatay noong Senior high school ako because of the situation sa buhay namin"

As stated by Govender (2020) Adolescent mothers expressed that finding out about their pregnancies had an immense impact on their psychological wellbeing. The reality of being pregnant as an adolescent was distressing. Guilt, shame and suicidal ideation (emotional and mental distress) dominated the thoughts of the adolescent mothers

Lived Experienced of Teenage Mother in terms of Social

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Theme
Participants no.1,2 and 6	Confined in their home	Lack of self esteem
Participant 4 and 5	Can go out with restrictions	
Participants no 3	No time for herself	

As discussed by Chi Watts (2015) For some young women, motherhood brought with it a sense of maturity, elevated responsibility and purpose. They began to regard themselves as adult and more mature. Becoming a mother meant they had to behave like responsible adults. Motherhood offered them an immediate family structure, and gave them a person they could truly love. For some, it brought an increased sense of self-worth. Participant 1 responded with Di na masyadong nakakaalis kasi may obligasyon na pero nung d pa pandemic ,na mi miss ko mga barkada ko,kaya minsan nalabas pa rin ako pero d na uminom ng alak "Supported by Humburg (2008)The experience of being a mother represents a major developmental transition for all women, regardless of age. It is a time of new demands and challenges that lead to changes in values, attitudes, and behaviors that have an enduring impact on the future life course Participant 2" Nung maliit pa talaga yung mga anak ko,bihira kaming makalabas na mag-asawa.Pero

nag decide ako mag-aral ayun nakalabas labas din pero walang social life ,ngayong sa bahay na lang ulit kasi mahirap lumabas maliliit pa mga anak ko.'; Participant 3 Feeling ko wala na akong time sa sarili ko,nung nag-isang taon na yung anak ko,nakakalabas may ilang restriction,na maaga kang uuwi b,baka "hanapin ka ng anak mo" "-Participant 4." Mayron naman pong social life,pinapayagan ako ng partner ko na lumabas with friends pero ang binibili ko para na sa baby ko,hindi na para sa akin and -Participant 5" Yes po, since I'm leaving with my parents and provided my needs and the needs of my daughter but I have several responsibilities in my new condition"Participant no 6" Dto lang po ako sa bahay kasi mahirap umalis nag be breast feed po ako, at wala din naman pong masyadong gagastahin".

Based on the responses, it is clear that the teenage mothers' lived experiences included being confined to their home due to new responsibilities and a lack of time to themselves.

Lived Experienced of Teenage Mothers in terms of Spiritual

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Themes
Participants 1-6	They learn to pray every day for forgiveness and guidance They are not only praying for her but also for their child/children	Faith in God

According to Apostolides (2017) Being an adolescent is a difficult time for young people. Adolescents are awkward, and insecure, and do not want to be left out of what their peers are doing. The adolescent may feel isolated from his or her family if he or she is doing things that he or she knows his or her family would disapprove of. However, if the adolescent is complying with what is expected of him or her at home, he or she may feel isolated from his or her peers. At this stage of their lives, adolescents struggle to make a connection with what they have, up until now taken for granted as their spiritual identity, and try to carve out a spiritual identity that is unique to them. Hence, adolescents may make choices at this stage that may inadvertently shape the rest of their lives.

From the given responses of all participants after they gave birth their relationship to God made them stronger and learn to lean on him every day and also when times of trouble. One even said that she has learned how to pray daily since the pregnancy happened. For them, learning how to pray means strengthening one's faith and relationship with God. Another participant said that prayer is the only way she can do especially if their child is sick. Participants no 6 said "Ang hirap maging ina at early age pag nakikita kung nahihirapan ag anak ko sa sipon naiyak na rin ako kasi lalo at wala kaming kasama sa bahay, dasal ako ng dasal"

Fortified Faith, whether the selections meant to or not, they are bringing another individual into the world and their life will be forever changed.

Furthermore, Resurreccion & Tan-Mansukhani (2012) concluded that Spirituality is a significant element of psychological wellbeing among Filipino adolescents. Spirituality among Filipino adolescents develops through the influence of supportive significant others and overcoming difficult life experiences

Factors contributed to the development of Teenage mothers

Support from the Family

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Themes
P 2 ,3,4 and 5	Supportive family	Initiative to learn new skills
P-1 and 6	Supportive family but need to learn to take care of her child	

From the given responses of all participants after they gave birth like P. 1" Tinulungan po ako sa panganganak at doon pa rin ako nakatira sa amin pero dahil nasa kanila ako hindi ako maka decide mag-isa. kailangang matuto ako sabago kung responsibilidad kasi may mga trabaho din sila ", p 2." Napaka swerte ko kasi lahat ng supporta galling sa magulang ko at sa biyenan ko binibigay nila sa akin dahil bata pa nga ako nung naging mommy ako." P 3 "Naramdaman ko naman po ang comfort ng family in time of trials, kasi alam nila relasyon namin hanggang

magpakasal kami last year”. Participants no 4 Naging optimistic po ako kasi nandyan ang family ko for support hindi lang sa akin pati sa partner ko at sa anak ko po. P-5 “I was provided physical and emotional protection by my family, only thing is I feel I am not equipped to manage life on my own”.

Cabrera, G., Quesa, E.Q (2020) concluded that “The teenage mothers” relationship with parents was characterized by doing things together, proper communication, better understanding of behaviors and feelings, love, and respect with fair level of conflicts. Consistently, their child-rearing experiences have weak influence on their sexual behaviors which might have led to their teenage pregnancy “and P-6 Naramdaman ko naman po kaso mahirap din sila kailangang kumita kaya pilit kung pinag-aaralan ang mga bagay bagay sa buhay lalo nap ag- aalaga ng bata. Napaka hirap “

However, even after pregnancy has taken its toll in the young mothers, parents still continue their roles in guiding and supporting their children who are turning into parents. Furthermore, parents are one of the support network and coaches in resolving pregnancies (Mann, Cardona & Gomez, 2015).

Finish Education

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Themes
P 1 -6	Determined to finish studies	determination

The table above shows the determination of the Teenage mothers to finish their education, as P-1 “Nung matapos po akong manganak, nag stopped po ako mag- aral ng isang taon, nakakuha po ng scholarship kaya naisipan kung magtuloy para sa amin ng anak ko. Nahirapan ako nung unang makasabay sa classmate ko kasi pag nasa school yung anak ko nasa isip ko then nag pandemic bagong adjustment na naman sa on line.” P-2 “Desidido po akong magtapos kahit dalawa na anak ko, kahit mahirap kakayanin ko, supportive naman ang asawa ko P-3. Graduating n asana ako nung magbuntis ako, naiwan ko ang thesis writing kaya ito binalikan ko after a year. Salamat ga graduate na ako this year. Para sa pamilya na binubuo naming ng asawa ko. P-4 Sinisigurado ko na lahat ng lesson at mga skills na natututunan ko ay ma apply ko sa susunod na panahon, para makakuha ako ng mataas na marka. Medyo mahirap kasi may iniintindi pa rin akong lola at anak”, P-5 Medyo kinakalimutan ko ilang family issues, basta focus ako sa study ko hanggat alam ko na nandyan family ko sa likod ko para mag support “, and P-6 “Yan po pangarap naming ng kambal ko makatapos at magtayo ng sarili naming negosyo, kahit minsan nahihirapan po ako dahil 100 ang load na kailangan per week, sa on line class ,pinipilit kung magawa ang mga assignments ko. Ang boyfriend ko po ay d natapos ng High School kasi need na ni, yang maghanap ng trabaho kasi nagkaanak na kami, kaya pinipilit kung makatapos po para sa amin at ng maka alis na kami sa poder ng magulang ko”.

The importance of a college or degree level qualification to their chosen future careers was emphasized by all respondents in this study. This is a notable accomplishment when set against the backdrop of previous adversity and persistent pessimistic societal perceptions of low expectations for teenage mothers' outcomes.

Based on the responses provided by the participants, it can be deduced that their perception of finishing their studies poses challenges, as supported by their responses that it is quite difficult for them in the aspect of Education because of the challenges in accessing the internet, looking for scholarship to help finance some miscellaneous expenses, looking for part-time job, ignoring some It is a challenge in the New Normal Educational Setup based on the commonalities and categories.

Self- Determination to Succeed

Participants	Preliminary codes Commonalities	Themes
P-2,3 , 4 and 6	Work abroad	Work abroad
P-1 and 5	Willing to learn new skills	

The table shows the responses of the participants that most of them are willing if given a chance to work abroad and willing to learn new skills

As stated by Parungao et al (2014) Having an optimistic outlook among the selections serves as a protective factor in which they demonstrate an attitude of looking at the finest things to happen in their future. Seemingly, their optimism protects them against an urge to give up and withdraw from social activities.

As stated by Winn (2017) determination is the essences of increasing your chances of being successful in a particular thing or achieving a particular goal, and it can also help you to stay motivated and continue striving towards the one thing you want to achieve.

Discussion

The purpose of this study was to look into adolescent mothers' lived experiences in terms of economic, physical, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being, as well as the factors that contributed to their success. To elaborate on this topic, three themes were identified: low self-esteem, determination to learn new skills, and determination to complete education and work abroad. Participants expanded on their reactions to the three themes.

Low Self-Esteem

Many teenage mothers give up on themselves and struggle with negative emotions caused by societal stigma, rejection, and isolation from friends and families, being judged by family, friends, and community, which can lead to low self-esteem or lack of confidence. P-1 cited that "hmm actually po nung una po di ko po talaga alam na buntis na po pala ako non kase po kung ano ano na din po ginagawa ko noon like street dancing po saka umiinom pa po ng alak so parang nahalata po nila na nag iba kurba ng katawan kopo tapos sinet up po nila ako ng check up sa diagnostic ng hindi kopo alam sinabe lang po yung asawa ng kuya ko papa check up yun po pala ako yung ipapa check up kahit ako po nun gulat din po ako sa nalaman ko pero nung una po parang sumama po loob sakin ng lahat kase hiwalay na po ako sa partner ko po nun dahil sa third party pero dumating na din po sa point na naging judgemental na po ang lahat based sa mukha ng ex ko po saka sa tinutuluyan" P-3 stated "I experienced gaining weight and challenges of several responsibilities the worst is nag falling hair po ako". P-2 "Bigla akong tumaba at nanibago sa itsura ko since nag breastfeeding po ako hanggang ngayon. Hindi makatulong ng maayos, napaka hirap mag-alaga ng bata po lalo na ng baby".

Furthermore, the participants' lived experiences are evident in the number of participants who lack self-esteem, as they are taking on difficulty of adjusting new responsibilities, some physical changes in their body, living without a social life, their ability to stand on their own, and living and reliance on their parents, which causes dependency, insecurity, stress, and guilt. Despite this, there are still people who support and encourage them when they are in this situation.

Initiative to learn new skills

Although social supports provide numerous advantages for teenage parents and their children, many young mothers lack the skills and knowledge to use them. She had not allowed teenage pregnancy to interrupt her future plans. P-4 "Sinisigurado ko na lahat ng lesson at mga skills na natututunan ko ay ma apply ko sa susunod na panahon, para makakuha ako ng mataas na marka. Medyo mahirap kasi may iniintindi pa rin akong lola at anak".

P-2 "Nag pi -freelance make- up artist po ako maam"

P-3 ako po nagaalaga sa Lola ko kasi Hindi na po nakakalakad mag isa tapos Yung tito at tita ko po na nsa abroad ang nagpapasweldo po sa akin, dati po kasi nsa pila po kami sa side po ng partner ko tapos po nung na mild stroke po ang Lola ko pinakiusapan po ako ng tito at tita ko na dito na nga po kami tumira sa side ko po para maalagaan ko po ang Lola at sswelduhan na lang daw po nila ako."

Personal characteristics provided many young women with a strong foundation on which to build resilience, but they also acknowledged that they would not be where they were without the help of others. Connecting with people who care and who offer friendship, understanding, material and emotional support is an effective way of assisting young people in developing the knowledge and skills necessary for healthy adulthood. These bonds act as a buffer in stressful situations and promote strong parenting.

Determination to complete Education

When compared to older new mothers, the transition to motherhood for teenage girls has been linked to a slew of additional difficulties. These Teenage mothers must deal with multiple significant life changes at the same time, including the transition to adulthood, the possibility of marriage, pregnancy, and motherhood.

Participants, on the other hand, face psychological difficulties as a result of their situation. For example, the partner cannot find work because they are still young and because of the pandemic, the money earned is insufficient for them because it is only a part-time job, they are still living with their parents and cannot decide for themselves, and they are uncomfortable as a result of sexual harassment experiences. Despite the difficulties they have faced in life, the participants are determined to complete their studies.

Their spirituality, on the other hand, remains critical in overcoming current and future challenges. Belief in a supreme being gives them extra strength to deal with their current situation. With that in mind, prayer has served as a protective shield for them.

P-1” May goal po ako sa buhay na nadapa na ako need kung bumangon sa tulong ng Diyos at maka pag trabaho pag natapos na ako”.

P-2-3 ,4,5 and 6 are determined to complete education because they want to work outside of the country in the near future.

As mothers and students, teen mothers faced adversity and struggle, but they remained more steadfast and resilient in their pursuit of a collegiate degree and a university diploma. To support their studies and some of their child's expenses, they must work part-time, such as online selling, caring for relatives, and assisting in their small business.

Conclusion

The current study sought to investigate the lived experiences of adolescent mothers in order to comprehend the situation and aspects of life. Six adolescent mothers who are also students took part in the study. Various findings are gleaned from interviews with the six participants. The lived experiences of adolescent mothers give them the courage and determination to complete their education, reduce poverty, and be able to stand on their own two feet. They want to help their family by working and earning money abroad in the hopes of a better career opportunity and a higher salary. Moreover, contributing factors in the development of Teenage Mothers include learning new skills while still in school, which alleviates their financial constraints and raises their standard of living. Teenage mothers must be developed in a more structured and integrated manner, and all life skills that are emphasized in developing life skills to overcome poverty must be ensured, lastly, Teenage mothers saw spirituality as providing them with a sense of purpose, allowing them to pursue actualization and transcendence in their various roles. Furthermore, the researcher recommends that, because teen mothers are members of Generation Z babies, born between 1997 and 2012, and their minds are focused on business rather than employment. The government and schools must work together to promote entrepreneurship as a means of expanding the economy and lifting people out of poverty. Programs and projects for aspiring entrepreneurs are being funded. Through plans to expand the economy and increased protections for small businesses, entrepreneurship provides Teenage mothers with the opportunity to access larger markets and establish connections outside of the informal economy. Entrepreneurship has the potential to be a key tool in alleviating poverty in many parts of the Philippines if the right policies are put in place. It is one method of reducing the number of teenage mothers who choose to work in another country

Another study could be conducted that focuses on the Impact of government programs for teenage mothers who are entrepreneurs.

References

1. Apostolides, A. (2018). Empathy and imagination: Nurturing children's and adolescent's spiritual wellbeing in the digital environment. Stellenbosch Theological Journal, 4(1), 73-89.

2. Cabrera, G. A., & Quesea, E. Q. (2020). Pregnancy Profile, Relationship with Parents, and Childrearing Experiences of Teenage Mothers in an Island Municipality in Quezon Province, Philippines
3. Durrani, R., & Nielsen, A. (2019). I've become hopeful again: A qualitative study of how the work of NGOs can be beneficial for teenage mothers in the Philippines
4. Evans, N. J., Forney, D. S., Guido, F. M., Patton, L. D., & Renn, K. A. (2009). Student development in college: Theory, research, and practice. John Wiley & Sons.
3. Garcia, S., Lim, W. C., Pascua, P., Santiago, M., & Tus, J. (2021). Inang Tatay: The Journey of Single Moms Amidst COVID 19 Pandemic. *International Journal Of Advance Research And Innovative Ideas In Education*, 7(1).
4. García-Rodríguez, F. J., Gutiérrez-Taño, D., & Ruiz-Rosa, I. (2019). Analysis of the potential of entrepreneurship education in young children. *Entrepreneurship Research Journal*, 9(1).
<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/erj-2017-0064/html>
5. Govender (2020)
<https://bmcpregnancychildbirth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12884-020-03319-7>
5. Lazear, E., Liang J & Hui Wang (2014). Demographic and Entrepreneurship, - *Econ Papers* - RePEc <https://econpapers.repec.org> › RePEc:sip:dpaper:14-003
5. Lee, Y., & Hofferth, S. L. (2017). Gender differences in single parents' living arrangements and child care time. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 26(12), 3439-3451.
6. Li, M., & Mustillo, S. (2020). Linking mother and offspring depressive symptoms: The mediating role of child appearance contingent self-worth. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 273, 113-121.
<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-015-2215-2>
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13603116.2019.1600053>
7. Mann, E. S., Cardona, V., & Gómez, C., A. (2015). Beyond the discourse of reproductive choice: | Vol, 2(1).
8. Mimmie Claudine Ngum Chi Watts, Pranee Liamputtong & Celia McMichael, *BMC Public Health* volume 15, Article number: 873 (2015)
<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-015-2215-2>
9. Parungao, C. R., Bautista, L. P., Mariano, R., Bonifacio, V. M., & Aguinaldo, M. V. (2014). Life brought at a tender age: the lived experiences of Filipino teenage pregnant women. *Asia Pacific Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*.
10. Resurreccion, R. & Tan- Mansukhani, R. (2012). Spirituality among Filipino Adolescents. De La Salle University Social Development Research Center Update, 2(2). familyandlifeupdate.com. 2012. Teenage Pregnancy in the Philippines
11. Robinson, O. C. (2014). Sampling in interview-based qualitative research: A theoretical and practical
12. Smith, J. A., Jarman, M., & Osborn, M. (1999). Doing interpretative phenomenological analysis. *Qualitative health psychology: Theories and methods*, 218-240.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK219229/> Risking the Future: Adolescent Sexuality, Pregnancy, and Childbearing, Volume II: Working Papers and Statistical Appendices.
<https://bmcpregnancychildbirth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12884-020-03319-7>
<https://journals.sfu.ca/jalt/index.php/jalt/article/view/11>

13. Sodi E, Sodi T. Quality of daily life with teenage motherhood. J Psychol Afr. 2012;22(3):429–34.
14. Winn, Ashley (2017) Why Having Determination Is Important In Life
<https://medium.com/the-ascent/why-having-determination-is-important-in-life-481226f2a60b>