Reviewer's report

Title: A quantitative exploration of the sociocultural context of teenage pregnancy in Sri Lanka

Version: 1 Date: 15 July 2014

Reviewer: Kabiru Salami

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. Since the title of the study indicates “A quantitative exploration of ………..”, your readers would be willing to see results presented with some statistics where applicable, rather than being described purely qualitatively as done in the abstract. This is more important at abstract section.

2. Following up on the three categories of respondents at different stage is a big task that this study has taken up; however, there is little information about the process of following up, the challenges and difficulties faced in the process. These should be properly addressed to pave ways for future researchers who are also intending to follow up on the approach in their own study.

3. On page 7, it was stated that ethical approval was taken from Ethics committee of the SLMA, the University and relevant authorities. I feel the authors should highlight specifically, the referred ‘relevant authorities’ in Sri Lanka apart from the ethics committee of SLMA and the University. This information may help future researchers too.

4. It is not ideal to start sentences with figures. This is common in this paper especially at results section of the paper. It should be avoided. Serious editorial is necessary not only at results section but in the overall manuscript.

5. On page 8, 2nd paragraph, 2nd line “……of other pregnant teenagers”. Please give detail of other pregnant teenagers; are they pregnant but not recruited in the study?

6. On page 7, Authors should insert “the local languages” after “….Tamil and Sinhala” on line 1.

7. Also there is concern whether the partners reported the reactions of the family to their own career after their families have accepted to support their pregnant wives. It is necessary to know whether the parents only agreed to support partner’s wives in taking care of the pregnancy at the expense of the boy/partner’s career. It is important know if the parent supported the pregnancy and at the same time the partner’s career.

8. Page 12, 1st paragraph is too clumsy with the questions raised in the paragraph, therefore needs reconstruction.

9. Also page 12, last paragraph: Interpretation of data on ‘condom and pills as best known’ has to come with caution since respondents were recruited at clinics.
10. Page 13, 1st paragraph, subheading ‘factors associated with unplanned teenage pregnancy’ is too clumsy to understand. Please reconstruct.

11. Page 17-18, most of the information provided as strength and limitation in this paper could fit in more perfectly in the methodology section. They are information already known before data collection while some of them are not even necessary.

Minor Essential Revisions:

12. Authors should crosscheck for omission of words which can hamper the meaning of key and relevant issues raised in the paper.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests