Reviewer's report

Title: Is a woman's first pregnancy outcome related to her years of schooling? An assessment of women's adolescent pregnancy outcomes and subsequent educational attainment in Ghana

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Reviewer: Nana Dagadu

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This article is written simply and clearly, making the logic easy to follow and process. Due to some of the findings and additional research/questions raised by the authors in the discussion, it is also well-positioned to contribute to and inform both the sectors of education and sexual and reproductive health.

First, there are a few minor spelling/grammar errors to address:

p4: Line 53: pregnancy must be changed to pregnant; Line 56: insert e for "their"

Secondly, these are a number of facts/points that I considered good to highlight:

P5 Line 71-72: nice link to later point about each year delay in pregnancy adding 0.119 years of schooling

P6 Line 94: good to point out the bi-directional ity of pregnancy and educational aspirations as it may otherwise appear that dropouts are only caused by pregnancy

P18 Line 373: good to mention effect of baby rather than the pregnancy itself being a challenge - more attention to this perhaps

p20: Lines 419-431: It's nice to contextualize the 3 regions so nicely done. Curious if it comes too late in the text, perhaps?

Finally, I would recommend further exploration or mention for others to consider in subsequent work:

1. It's good to separate out induced and spontaneous abortions as pregnancy outcomes. I'm curious, however, about whether there were differences between women who experienced miscarriage vs. stillbirth (particularly since the length of pregnancy, facing stigma or
nutrition challenges etc. could be factored in). It would also be interesting to consider the timing of the induced/spontaneous abortions during the course of the pregnancy.

2. Although some mention is made of ambition and aspiration and the datasource my not support this level of analysis, I believe the article has a key gap in the analysis/discussion of the role of personality in women's choices to have/not have a child or to stay/drop out of school. I think this is particularly important for those who elect to have induced abortions. What drives them?

3. Some mention is made of other contributing factors but what of the physiological, mental, and psychological factors involved in pregnancy (e.g. p18 line 376-378, 397) and how they could affect the women e.g. once pregnant, changed attentions in classroom as well as maybe lack of interest in returning to school.

4. It might be interesting to compare contexts and findings to other west African countries rather than South Africa and Kenya.

5. p19 line 410: what is the basis for this conclusion? not much discussion about contraceptive use before this point so either expand or provide info from the lit review to expand.

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