

Teen Pregnancy in Roman and Egyptian Communities

Lindita Terolli

Universiteti Fan.S.Noli, Korca, Albania

E-mail: lindita.terolli@yahoo.com

Abstract. *The aim of this study is the identification of people in need, to pay more attention to them and to inform for preventing health complications. Material and methods: The study was conducted through the examinations of patients in the maternity of Korca and the questionnaires were designed to detect the level of knowledge, which had the population under study, with regard to family planning, care and examinations that should be performed during pregnancy, for the pregnancy pathologies and pregnancies at risk. Results are expressed in % (in relation to age, skin color, level of knowledge about the problems above. Were questioned 200 women of whom 100 were girls and women of Roman and Egyptian communities and belonged to age 13-18. It was compared their culture on health (among white adolescents and Roman and Egyptian). The information about the study was collected during a period of years (2008-20011). Conclusions: Girls whose age belonged to adolescence had incomplete information with regard to the reproduction health, among them Romans and Egyptian had little or no information to. Despite Proficiency Testing found in textbooks or in the information provided in the press and other media means, it's emphasized the absence of knowledge. Complications not related only to abortion but also present during pregnancy and during birth. Babies born hypotrophe is another complication.*

Keywords: *Roman and Egyptian girls, teens, pregnancy, complications.*

The study of teen pregnancy cases in Roman and Egyptian communities. Focused In Albania, Korca.

Introduction

Background Information Romans: It is thought to be around 50.000-70.000 Romans in Albania (around 700 families in Korca). Albania currently has about 5000 Roman children between 13-16 years old while 3-5 years age group account for 23.6% of Roman children aged between 3-16 years, (1970). The arrival of Romans in Albania is thought to date back to the XV century with the Ottoman conquest. They consist of four main tribes: 1. Kallubxhinj (Tirana, Elbasan, Pogradec, Korca, Bilisht, Gjirokaster and Sarande) 2. Meckare (Lushnje, Fier and Vlore) 3. Kurtofet. Among them is spoken their traditional language, which is used only in their environment. Their language is written in very rare cases, because Albania doesn't have Roman schools. Mainly deal with crafts such as basket makers, horse breeders, blacksmiths, cart, peddlers, animal, mitigation, musicians, dancers. It is a community with a very low standard of living. The average of born children is 5-6, but there are also families that have from 12 up to 17. A very large part of the Romans have started a normal life. Education, employment and housing are considered as major problems running in this community. 3-5 Albania currently has about 5000 Roman children aged between 3-16, (1934) in Korca years age group account for 23.6% of Roman children aged 6-16 years, 450 children Egyptian minority.

Albania numbered about 300.000 to 350.000 (8-9% of population), the greatest minority In Korca 6700-7000 deployed in 2-3 neighborhoods of the city. Origin: Egypt, northwestern India. Their language is Albanian. Their typical professions in centuries are the iron work and musician Egyptian community in Albania is facing extreme economic slavery, trafficking of children, highlighting illiteracy, great unemployment. Social problems, health and education are the same in the Roman and Egyptian communities. And it is this culture, this way of living, their economic status, extreme poverty, those circumstances that make the teens of these minorities to look for another support out of the family, for a marriage in young age (12-14 years) that then brings widely teen pregnancy. This causes great problems with school attendance, they leave school (up to 15 teens per year).

General knowledge

Adolescence is period of life that lies between childhood and adult life. The word "teenager" is used to identify individuals with age from 12-19 years old. This period extends between physical maturity (the ability to reproduce) and social maturity (economic independence and autonomy). In this period important changes occur such as psychological, social, and economic ones. And in this age they need education and support information especially about methods of contraception. Especially Roman and Egyptian teenagers in Albanian and Korca too, need to be supported in social,

economic, emotional and psychological aspect. Pathologies and complications during teen pregnancy are those below. Etiology: age (< 18years; >35years), malnutrition, lack of knowledge about care and examinations, family violence. Pathologies: Anemia; Preeclampsia; Eclampsia; Hypotroph babies; Abortion-risk; Abortion; or fetal death. Preeclampsia is disease associated with hypertension, edema proteinuria, the suffering of the baby until the fetal death. One of the complications of Preeclampsia is is Eclampsia. Eclampsia is a serious disease during pregnancy and child birth which include symptoms of severe preeclampsia and one or more of the following signs:-The presence of one or more convulsion spasms to women with Preeclampsia; coagulopathy; risk to disconnect the placenta prematurely. The renal dysfunction; damage heavy hepatica; growth of enzyme; the fatality percentage is 1.8%-3.5% of women suffer a serious complication such as cerebral bleeding complication of hypertension that remains an obvious lethal cause for baby and mother. Complications of abortion 2-3% of abortion patient, do suffer from damage of the uterus and cervical. These impairments make the cervix unable to carry a pregnancy up to the normal end, so these women risk premature birth with all it is implications. Injuries of the cervix can become a source of chronic infection of the cervix. While repeated abortions, increase the potential for (placenta previa). The disease of pregnancy associated with bleeding during pregnancy runs the risk of premature birth. Endometritis and other infections.-These complications can happen to all women, but is most common in adolescents who commit an abortion. Those injuries can be accompanied by a decrease in reproductive ability or else risking sterility. There is even one more risk favored by the age of teenage, cervical cancer.

Goal: Identification of the circumstances that bring teen pregnancy, problems during it. Health education programs for these communities through the collaboration with relevant institutions. Identification of pregnancies at risk. Giving information to these teens about pregnancy and abortion risks.

Material and methods

The kind of study; Descriptive. The study direction; Prospective. Type of study: Studying the cases. Analysis of problems appeared. Results and Conclusions follow. Instruments used: The study and supervision of pregnant young women's health problems and abortion at the home of birth in Korca (during the period 2008-2011). History and questionnaires directed to white, Egyptian and Roman women and girls. Surveillance of the clinic cases. Questionnaires to 9-years schools teachers with regard to Roman and Egyptian teen problems.

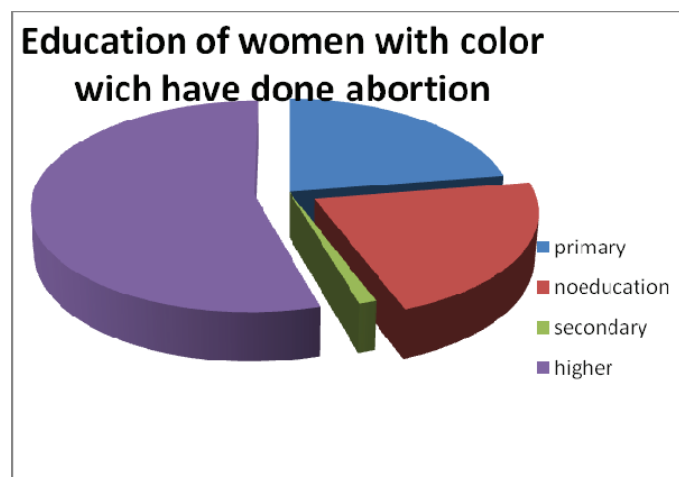
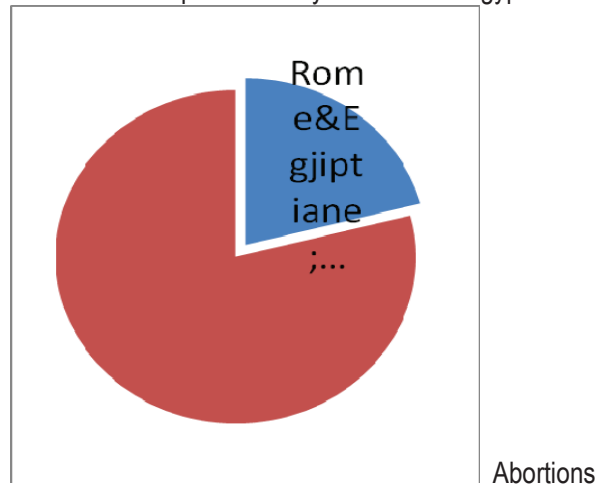
Analysis and results

school attendance problems: * 29% never been to school * 43% of Roman children aged 15-16 years are illiterate. Only 8% of 11 year old girls are in school while of boys of the same age 23%. 12 years old 6.5% attend school. 89% of Egyptian children go to 9-year school for primary education 63% have grades between 5-9. High school is attended by 17.8% and 4.5% continue higher education, of Romans and Egyptians. But this also favors trafficking (actually 20 cases risked in Korca). Statistics about their knowledge on health: * 70% of respondents knew very little about protection measures and infections. * 35% had little knowledge of reproductive health * 83% of respondents had no book at home (medical) * 99% did not know any kind for children care.

Adolescence Pregnancies (factor): 1-lack of information on reproduction health 2- Use of alcohol. Surveys: Lack of knowledge about contraception 90% of respondents. 99% have no information in the indication and contraindication of contraception. 94% knew nothing about complications of pregnancy pathologies and abortion. Pathologies and complications during pregnancy: Etiology: age, malnutrition, lack of knowledge about care and examinations, family violence . Pathologies: 1.Anemia 2.Preecalmpsia 3.Eclampsia 4.Hypotrof 5.Abortion-risk. 6.Abortion 7, Babies or fetal death. Anemia in the case of our patients Roman and Egyptian are touched more by these diseases favored by teen pregnancy and from malnutrition. Malnutrition associated with their economic situation or lack of information for the Ecalmpsia and Pre-Eclampsia and disease which are specific and risk for pregnancy.

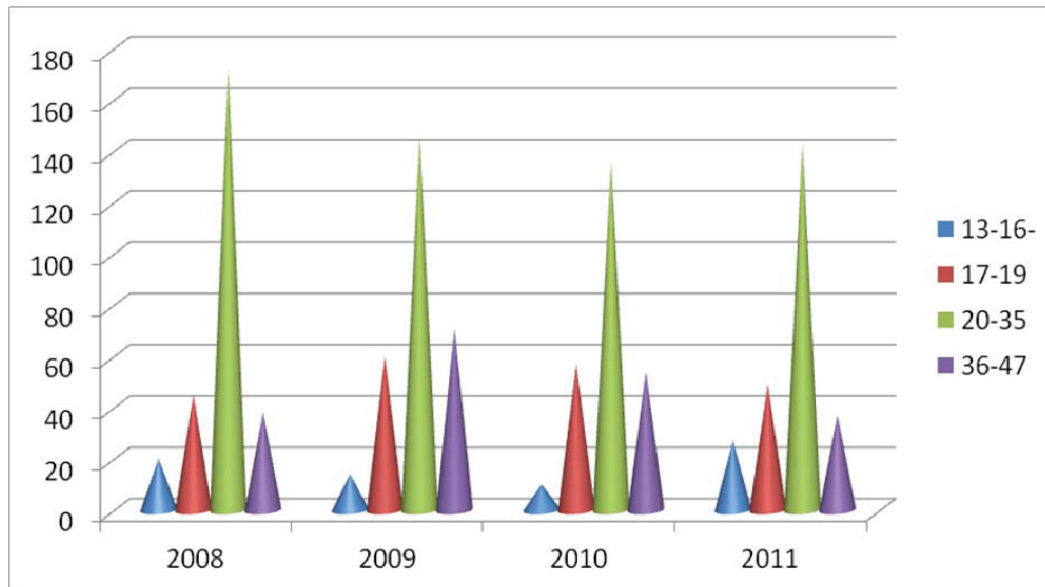
In this study for pathologies of pregnant women were figured out the following conclusions. With pre-eclampsia resulted 80 cases and 6 cases with Ecampsia. 72 of the cases with pre-eclampsia were pregnancies for the first time. Among these cases 7 cases were of Roman Egyptian communities. 2 cases of them were with Eclampsia were Egyptian. One of these pregnancies was with twins, had lived a very serious condition with repeated convulsive crisis. Unfortunately she was very close to dead. Favorable condition for disease: pregnant teen under the age 18 years, being pregnant for the first time, the number of fetuses. Lack of information for self-assessing blood pressure, edema and other signs became another risk taken to aggravate the situation. Therefore should be paid attention and care during pregnancy, during born and after birth because can be displayed Preeclampsia or Eclampsia. Abortion level: Over 40 million

abortions for year or word wide, while Albania has 207 abortions for 100 births. European countries have the average number 226. According to statistics from the Institute of Public Health, Albania level of abortion has fallen significantly from 419.2 for 1000 births in 2000 (year), to 270.2 for 1000 birth in 2009 (year). In the maternity of Korca are performed: Abortions by married women (about 93%), among the Roman and Egyptian 25.4%. By single women are done 6.5% of the total abortions. Cases of provoked abortions accompanied with hemorrhaging infection up to critical condition. From the interview with a 60-year-old woman learned that she herself had performed 30 abortions in her life. Including here also the provoked abortions, before year 1990 abortion was not allowed. In other interviews and the card-index the maternity is showed that the number of abortions performed by a Roman or Egyptian women was 5-25.



Results showed that 21% of the total number of abortions performed in the maternity ward of Korca performed by the women of Roman and Egyptian communities. Although this population constitutes only about 11% of the community wards of Korca, from the studies and polls resulted that the greatest part of abortions are done from uneducated people with low education, on the better chance they have a high school. And also what is important to be mentioned is that most of them are Roman and Egyptian teens are spontaneous. The number of children that they decide to have is on average 4-5 for Egyptians and 6-7 for Romans. And the abortions they do come after they have 6 children. **Immediate complications of abortion** are: Approximately 10% of women who make abortion suffer from immediate complications of abortion. The most common complications are infection, bleeding during and after major abortions may be embolism (lung trumpet setting or in the brain) cleavage of the uterus and the cervix, complications of anesthesia, convulsion, shock the future of this baby depends directly on the level parents. It may occur that baby is abandoned in maternities or in the level of is left to be grown by his grandfather and grandmother. In Korca city maternity hospital in the last 5 years abandoned 9 children, 3 of them were children and Egyptian. In Korca orphanage are currently 15 children abandoned, 4 were Egyptian and 1 is Roman. In all the three cases the child may be part of trafficking, prostitution and may cause problems to the whole society. His education can not be part of his life and perhaps he will be married at age of adolescence as his parent. Thus problems again recycle.

Abortions in years (age groups: 13-16 year, 17-19year, 20-35year, 36-47year)



Really need more support

Recommendations

The choice of strategies aiming reducing problems.

*Development of programs with Roman parents, making conscious about their children education importance (development of a particular platform to work with Roman parents)

*Education is the key to success. * Emotional and psychological support is needed. * To avoid the abortion especially in young age, a good solution is contraception. * It is part of democracy, to give to all races and ethnic groups, the sense of being part of society with equal right and protections. * Only through a comprehensive inter-institutional approach can be achieved a sustainable improvement of the current situation of these communities.

References

- Adolescent pregnancy. In: Kliegman RM, Behrman RE, Jenson HB, Stanton BF, eds. Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics. 19th ed. Philadelphia, Pa: Saunders Elsevier; 2011:chap 112.
- dsh.M. Saimir Cenameri Department of Obstetric and Gynecology Faculty of Medicine University of Tirana Bulletin of Medical Sciences volume 41. No. 2 \ The body of the University of Tirana.
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). e initiation of sexual activity and teen pregnancy. J Adolesc Health. 2008;42:344-351.
- Smith GCS. Teenage pregnancy and risk of adverse during pregnancy cut comes associated with first. and second births: population based retrospective Goldenberg RL, Iams JD, Mercer BM, et al. The preterm prediction study: The value of new vs. standard risk factors in predicting early and all spontaneous preterm births. Am J Public Health. 1998;88:233-38
- Mercer BM, Goldenberg RL, Moawad AH, Meis PJ, Iams JD, Das AF et al. The preterm prediction study: Effect of gestational age and cause of preterm birth on subsequent obstetric outcome. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 1999; 181: 1216-21.
- Drakeley AJ, Roberts D, Alfirevic Z. Cervical stitch (cerclage) for preventing pregnancy loss in women. Thornton, JG. Progesterone and Preterm Labor -- Still No Definite Answers. N Engl J Med 2007 357: 499-501.
- Robertson A 2001 Prenatal education. The Practicing Midwife 4(1):38-39
- Baston H 2002 Antenatal care –blood test in pregnancy. The Practicing Midwife 5(11):28-32
- Brown M, Hague E, Higgins J et al 2000 Australian Society for the study of Hypertension in Pregnancy Consensus Statement: The detection, investigation and management of hypertension on pregnancy. Online;www.racp.-8-edu.au/asshp/asshp.pdf accessed 14 June 2004.
- Bryan S 2003 Current challenges in assessment and management of patient with bleeding in early pregnancy. Emergency medicine 15(3):219-222.
- Duley L. 2003 Pre-eclampsia and the hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. British Medical Bulletin 67: 161-176
- Drife J 2003 Anemia. British Medical Bulletin 67:179-190
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, <http://www.acong.org>. ACOG 1997 Practice Patterns. Contraception. International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics 56:203-210
- ACOG. ACOG Practice bulletin. Clinical management guidelines of obstetrician-gynecologists. Number 67:220-234, October 2005. medical management of abortion. Obstet Gynecol. Oct 2005.
- Association of Romans in Korca.
- Egyptian Association in Korca. 6-The School District of Korca
- Department of Public Health in Korca. 8-Maternity in Korca