



UNDER
THE
MANGO
TREE



ABOUT OYO STATE

Oyo State is Located in the South-West geopolitical zone of Nigeria. It was one of the three States formed out of the former Western State of Nigeria in 1976. Oyo State is bounded in the south by Ogun State, in the north by Kwara State, in the west it is partly bounded by Ogun State and partly by the Republic of Benin, while in the East by Osun State. It is homogenous, mainly inhabited by the Yoruba ethnic group with a population of about 6million people. Oyo State consists of 33 Local Governments and 29 Local Council Development Areas. Local Government Areas are: Afijio, Akinyele, Atiba, Atisbo, Egbeda, Ibadan North, Ibadan North-East, Ibadan North-West, Ibadan South-East, Ibadan SouthWest, Ibarapa Central, Ibarapa East, Ibarapa North, Ido, Irepo, Iseyin, Itesiwaju, Iwajowa, Kajola, Lagelu, Ogbomoso North, Ogbomoso South, Ogo-Oluwa, Olorunsogo, Oluyole, Ona-Ara, Oorelope, Oriire, Oyo East, Oyo West, Saki East, Saki West and Surulere. The City is Known for the first University in Nigeria that is the University of Ibadan, Oyo state.

About SWAG Initiative

Stand with a Girl (SWAG) Initiative is a registered youth-led organisation dedicated to ensuring that every girl in Nigeria is empowered to fulfill her maximum potential no matter where she is born or found.

About the DMS Project

GOAL:

to ensure increased access to quality sexual and reproductive health information and services among young people in Nigeria

OBJECTIVE

- Promote meaningful youth participation in data for decision making.
- Strengthen the capacity of State Actors on data use for informed decision making and programming.
- Interpret the AYSRH data in a simple, friendly, catchy, and responsive format for decision-making.
- Promote AYSRH storybooks to improve delivery of comprehensive contraception care and education.

Disclaimer

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, business, events and incidents are the products of the author's imagination. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or actual events is purely coincidental



The sound of the bell was heard so loudly that all the students of City Grammar School, Ibadan, hurriedly and excitedly moved out of their classes to go home. Ore packed her bag to step out of class, looked back and said to Tinuke, “are you not coming there is gist o.” others are waiting for us under the mango tree. Tinuke: I am coming, let me submit my assignment. (Both girls step out of class and move towards the mango tree to meet their friends.)



Tinuke: But I cannot stay long today. I need to help my mother at her store because one of her sales girls is ill.

Ore: Shade, is that a new phone you're holding?

Shade: Yes, of course!

Tinuke: Can I have a look at it?

Shade: No oo! "You wey dey always form good girl". Anyway, my boyfriend got it for me as a birthday gift.

Tinuke: How old is your boyfriend that got you this expensive phone



Peju: Using what you have to get what you want.

Tinuke: Are you not afraid of getting pregnant? Or do you use condoms?

Peju: “Who e epp”? All these while we’ve been doing it without condoms.

Tinuke: Hmmm! (She took a deep breath.)

Ore: Tinuke, why did you sigh?

Tinuke: Omo...hmmmmmmmm. This reminds me of Tunmise in my former school.

Shade: You think I am dating all these small boys? hah a! “Emi gbogbo bigz girls”.

Peju: Infact, my boyfriend promised to take me to Palms Mall to get me clothes and shoes for the upcoming inter school pool party.

Ore: Ahn! Shade, Peju, I have been begging you to introduce me to these big boys.

Peju: Can you do what it takes to keep these big boys?

Ore: Like what?



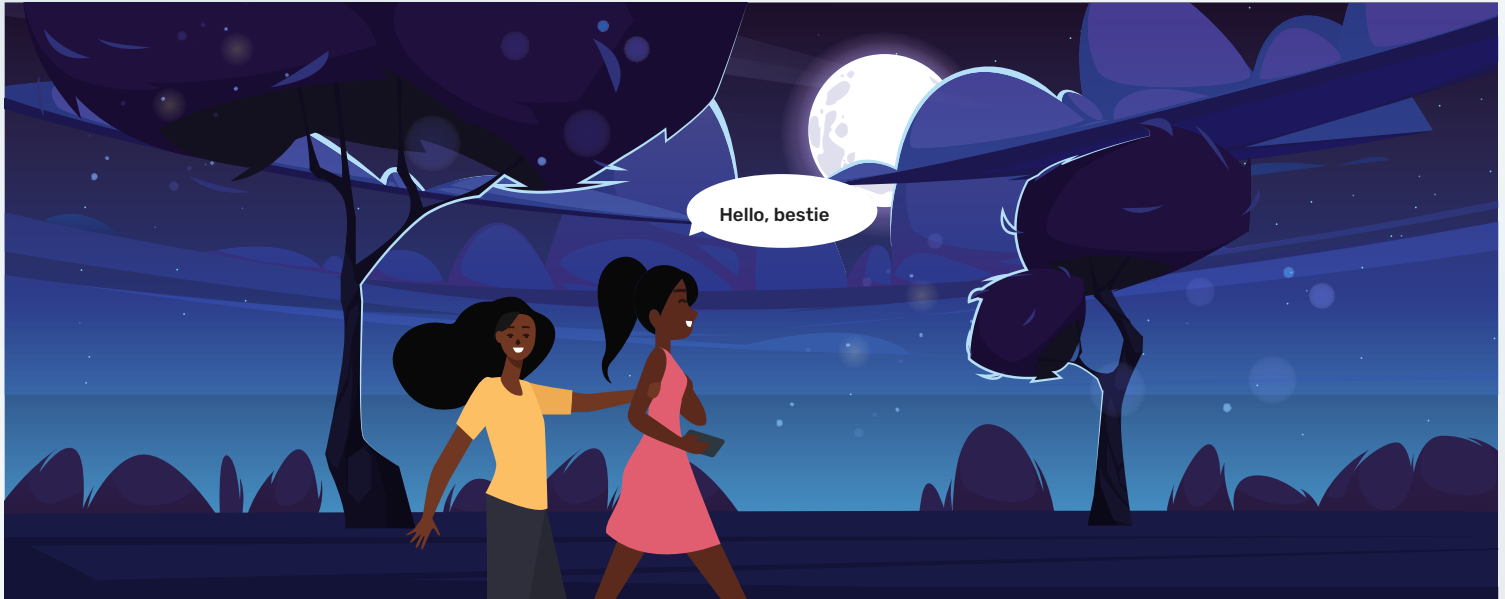
3 in 10 girls between ages 15-29 years do not intend to use modern contraceptives

Tunmise is a 15-year old girl whose father is a noble businessman and her mother, a banker. They Live in Bodija, Ibadan. Her parents' religious and cultural beliefs limited her access to information on sexual and reproductive health. On a fateful day, Femi, the head boy of the school approached her with a box of biscuits and perfumes that she loved so much. He is a secret admirer of hers from the day they both went on a quiz competition and she came out on top. On getting home in the evening, there was no one she could relate her sense of attraction toward Femi to. She could not sleep that night and she wrote some of her romantic feelings in her secret diary.



Days go by and Femi keeps on giving her gifts and making sexual advances toward her. On a cool evening while returning from school, Tunmise informed her best friend Tosin about her desires. Tosin is sexually active but uninformed about sexual and reproductive health and life planning choices.

Tunmise: Bestie, I have a gist for you





Tosin: What is it? (She asks eagerly)

Tunmise: Guess!

Tosin: Tell me now! You know I hate suspense.

Tunmise: I received a gift.

Tosin: From Femi right?

Tunmise: You guessed right.

Tosin: Is he asking you out already?

Tunmise: Kind of, but I don't know how to go about it. The last time I met him, he touched me, told me I am a beautiful girl and he would like for me to be his babe.

Tosin: Wow! Awnnnnnnnnnnnn! You are so lucky; Femi is a handsome guy. So what else has he said to you?



Tunmise is 1 in 10 girls between ages 15-19 years who had experienced sexual Harassment which is a form of Gender Based Violence

Tosin: So what was your response?

Tunmise: I refused and when he insisted, I ran away.

Tosin: At age 15, why will you do that? You should have allowed him. That is another part of life you should explore.

(The Median age at first sex {sexual debut} for adolescent ages 15-19years is 15years.)

Tunmise: The last time we met after school, he looked at me somehow: demanding hugs, pecks, and not too long he began touching my breast and buttocks which I was not comfortable with.

(Tunmise is 1 in 10 girls between ages 15-19 years who had experienced Sexual Harassment which is a form of Gender Based Violence.)

**The Median age at first sex
{sexual debut}
for adolescent
ages 15-19years
is 15years.**

Tunmise: Are you sure of what you are telling me?

Tosin: Of course. It's good you have a guy in your life.

Tunmise: Okay. HmMMMM! Let's see how it goes.

Two days later, Femi invited her for a visit. Out of excitement, she got ready for the visit. Following the advice of her friend, she let her guard down and they engaged in unprotected sex...

Eight weeks later, during break time, Tosin asked Tunmise if she had any spare sanitary pads. It was then it occurred to Tunmise that she hadn't seen her period for a while.



Tunmise: I don't have any pad with me. I have not used any for the past few months...

Tosin: Ah! Oh my God, do you mean you haven't seen your period in the past few months?

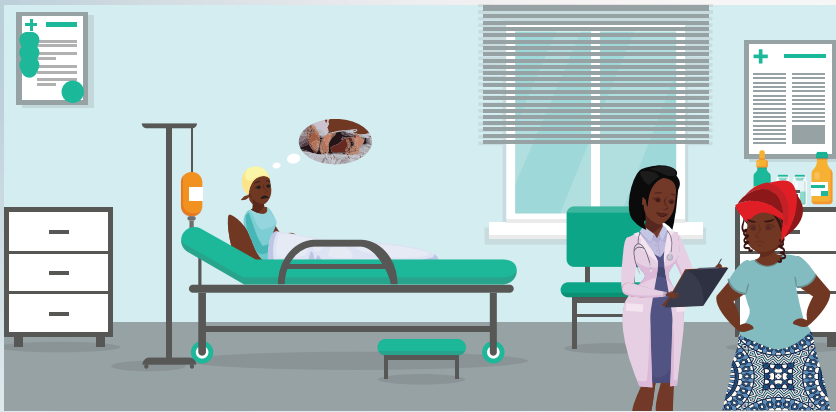
Tunmise: Yes. Is there a problem with that?

Tosin: There is oh! After school hours, I need to take you somewhere.

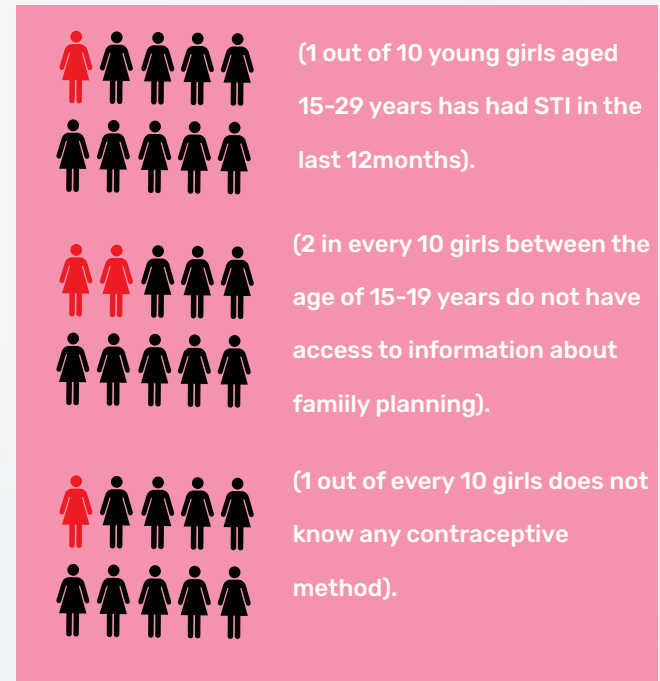
At the end of classes that day, Tosin hurriedly took Tunmise to the nearest drug seller where she was confirmed pregnant. They both ask the drug seller for help to terminate the pregnancy and she gave them some drugs.

At midnight, Tunmise started to wriggle in pain and was bleeding heavily. She shouted for help and her mother rushed her to the nearest hospital very early the following morning. It is confirmed that she just had an abortion...with complications.

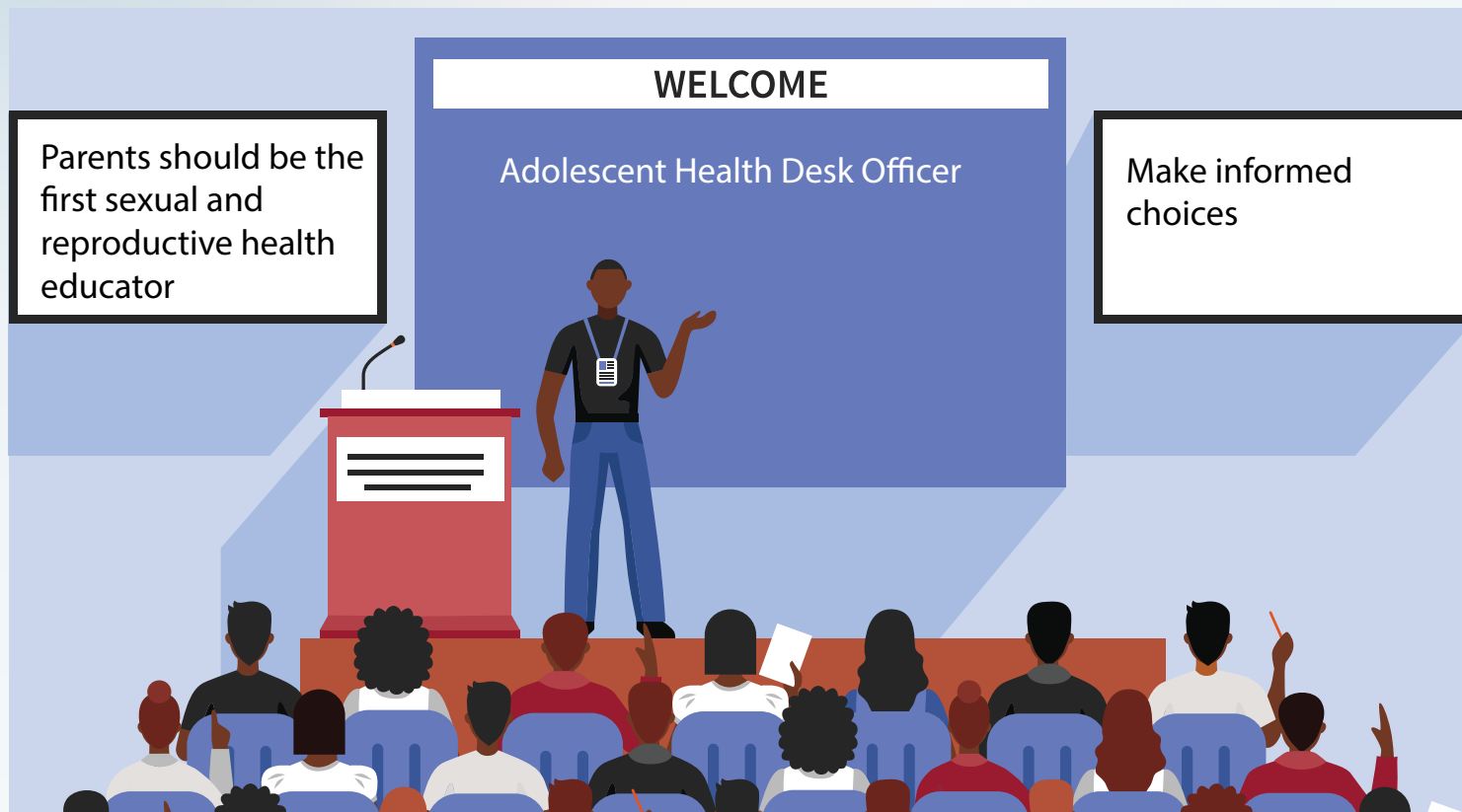




At the emergency ward, the doctor observed that the abortion was incomplete and an evacuation had to be done. It is also confirmed that she already has a sexually transmitted infection (STI). After recovery, she was discharged and referred to the family planning clinic where she was counseled about various family planning methods. The service provider explained to her that like Tunmise, about 2 in every 10 girls between the age of 15-19 years do not have access to information about Family Planning while 1 out of every 10 girls does not know any contraceptive method. With adequate information, she chose a modern contraceptive method with the consent of her parents



At home, Tunmise confessed that the school head boy Femi was responsible for her pregnancy. The case was escalated to the school authority who took it up and resolved to engage an Adolescent, Youth, Sexual and Reproductive Health counselor to educate and follow up on the students





Tinuke: I need to start going.

Peju and Shade: I will come with you. (Simultaneously). (On their way home, the following conversation ensued among the girls.)

Shade: I think I should go to a health facility. I am scared.

Peju: As if you read my mind. We could test ourselves and also get information on how to protect ourselves.

Tinuke: That will be a very good idea.

Ore: Ehhhh! Thank God I have not joined yet. This is an eye-opener.

Tinuke: This is why I decided to abstain from sex because it is the best, but if you no fit hold body, you should go to the nearest health facility to know more on how to protect yourself because about 3 teenage girls out of 10 have ever had sex but never used any method to prevent pregnancy.

Peju and Shade: Eh...!

Shade: Those health workers that will judge you!

Tinuke: Not all of them are biased and judgmental. (Peju and Shade sighed together looking unsure at what they just heard.)



1 out of every 10 teenage girls has had STIs in the last 12 months



After two days of deep thoughts and sober reflections, Peju and Shade visited a health facility to seek help. On getting there, the health workers took time to listen to them and counseled them accordingly. They were advised to take a series of tests to check for sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, and other conditions.

Fortunately, Peju and Shade's results came out negative. They were so happy. 1 out of every 10 teenage girls has had STIs in the last 12 months and they didn't want to be part of that statistic. Peju decided to abstain from sex like Tinuke and Ore, while Shade opted for the modern contraceptive option of injectable and condoms to prevent her from unwanted pregnancy and also STIs.

GLOSSARY

Sexual and Reproductive Health: a state of complete physical, mental, social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system of people between the ages of 10 and 19.

Sexual Harassment: making unwelcomed and inappropriate sexual remarks or physical advances in the workplace or other professional or social situations

Gender Based Violence: is a harmful act directed or carried out on an individual based on their gender. It is rooted in gender inequality, abuse of power and harmful norms.

Modern Contraceptive: a product or medical procedure that interferes with reproduction from acts of sexual intercourse

Injectable: a chemical substance injected underneath the skin or muscle through a needle to prevent pregnancy.

Family Planning Method: the variety of options available for individuals and couples to anticipate and attain their desired number of children and spacing the timing of their birth.

Emi gbogbo bigz girls: a big girl like me

Who e epp?: of what importance

LIST OF OYO CONTRIBUTORS

- Dr. M.B Olatunji
- Adeola Awakan
- Abodunrin Funmilayo kemi
- Patrick Grace funmilayo
- Adeniyi Ademola Olaoluwa
- Adetoyese Toyosi A
- Blessed Chetachi Peter-Akinloye
- Ifeoluwa Ajiboye
- Oyetunde Oyebobola
- Akinyemi Funmilola
- Asegbe Olayemi Oluseun
- Fanimokun Adesola
- Olasupo Aminah Omolabake
- Moyosore Oloruntoyin
- Agboola Mary Adebola
- Akinyemi Funmilola Fisayo
- Balogun Hawaw Opeyemi
- Ogunleye Funmi
- Olumide Lawal Bolanle
- Aminu Aishat Folashade



Reference

‘All data used in the creation of this storybook was sourced from
the Nigeria Demographic Health Survey 2018’

CALL TO ACTION

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND PRIMARY HEALTHCARE BOARD

- Executive Secretary of Oyo state PHCB integrate youth-friendly services into selected existing Health facilities in all 33 LGAs in OYO state by December,2023.
- Recruit 3 health educators per LGAs and Strengthen the health education unit on Adolescent and Youth Sexual Reproductive Health by December.2023
- Conduct quarterly physical training and on the job training, monitoring and evaluation of LGAs AYSRH Focal persons. From 3rd quarter 2022.
- State Family Planning Coordinator ensure continuous Contraceptive Technology(CTU) Updates for Service providers across 33 LGAs.
- State Family Planning Coordinator ensure a constant supply of Family Planning consumables across the 33LGAs

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Ministry of Health work with director of School to ensure detailed Sexual Reproductive Health is incorporated into school curriculum.
- Adolescent Health Desk Officer work with Ministry of Education to revive the guidance and counselling unit in school to handle AYSHR issues.

TRADITIONAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

- Health educators and AHDO to engage CAN, League of Imam, Indigenous Faith of Africa, and Community Development Councils across all the 33 LGAs.
- Health and Youth Focal person harvest statements of support from traditional and religious institutions across all the 33 LGAs.

KEY MESSAGES

- Abstinence is my choice.
- If you no fit hold body seek help from a professional health worker.
- Nobody wey no fit get STIs
- Inadequate SRH information leads to unplanned pregnancy and unsafe abortion.
- Sex education is a right of every adolescent child
- The practice of safe sex pays
- Sexual and Reproductive Health information is my right.
- Say no to unprotected sex
- Make informed choices
- Modern Contraceptives does not cause infertility
- Parents should be the first health educator
- Respect my body, no consent no touching.
- Sex is not love. Shine your eye.

Acknowledgement

This storybook is supported by Grand Challenges Canada. Grand Challenges Canada is funded by the Government of Canada and is dedicated to supporting Bold Ideas with Big Impact®.

The information provided in this storybook is the sole responsibility of Stand with a Girl Initiative (SWAG) and does not necessarily reflect the views of Grand Challenges Canada or the Government of Canada.

