

Radio Script – Contraception and Adolescent Pregnancy

Title:	Health Education (contraceptives)
Barrier:	Insufficient knowledge to make informed decisions
Behaviour:	Not using contraception
Problems:	Adolescent pregnancy
Potential Problems:	Less income generation and School drop out
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Narrator: Hello, my fellow Adolescent Girls and Young Women to your program. This is where we share our experiences, discuss challenges we face and solutions that can shape and help us to reach our potential...

SFX – Village Ambience Plays

Mother: Maria, Maria! Come please! We need to talk.

Maria: What is it this time around? Why do you always have to be harsh on me?

Mother: Maria! Calm down, I want us to discuss about your relationship with Patrick.

Maria: (Excitedly) Mum call him Phaddy, what about our relationship? To say the truth mum, I love Patrick and he loves me, I see ourselves giving you beautiful grandchildren. What about that?

Mother: That's where my worry is, my daughter? Remember you have a dream to become the first ever medical doctor from our village? I am afraid Patrick may impregnate you and that dream will be shattered.

Maria: Mother don't be afraid I am older now; I know how to take care of myself.

Mother: Maria, do you know indulging in unsafe sex will lead to you getting pregnant? And that will force you out of school, please talk to Phaddy you should be having protected sex.

Maria: Maam, why do you always think in the past? If I ask Phaddy to start using condoms he will leave me for other girls. I don't want to lose him I am not ready for that. Have you forgotten that nowadays men are scarce? No way I can't take that. Besides, Phaddy tells me that wearing a condom will make him impotent.

Mother: Listen to me my daughter I know what I am talking about...

Maria: (Rudely) By the way you are wasting my time I am going to watch football, Phaddy's team is playing.

Narrator: We have heard Maria not giving a nod to her mum's advice. From the story we've learned that Maria and Phaddy have insufficient knowledge about contraception. Phaddy has misinformation about the side effects of contraception. **[reinforce information from previous episode debunking this]**

Let's continue listening and see what happens next.

SFX - Football match ambience and a final whistle

Patrick: You see Maria, I have scored two goals and finished off our opponents!

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Maria: Wow! That’s my boy, you deserve a special treat, I know you are tired, and you need something special and good.

Patrick: Ukudziwa kale, let’s go to my friend’s place and have fun.

Maria: I can’t wait Phaddy, imagine my mother with her usual lectures, she says we should be having protected sex...

Patrick: (harshly) What is that? I can’t take that, if that is the case tell your mother to find you another man, who can take that nonsense. I am told using condoms make men impotent. I am the only boy in our family, and I am supposed to father as many children as possible to grow the lineage.

Maria: Patrick, you know I can’t live without you, ignore my mother’s advice just like I have done. Don’t get upset, I want to treat you to something special. Scoring two goals eeish! You also need to score. We don’t need to use a condom.

Maria and Patrick **(Laughing in an affectionate manner)**

Narrator: Now that we’ve listened to Maria and Phaddy when she went to see him at his football match, take 10 minutes to discuss what has happened with Maria and Phaddy because they have insufficient knowledge about contraception. **What happened because of this?**

Remember! You can use your picture cards 1 and 2 to help you with this discussion.

Take 10 minutes to discuss what Maria and Phaddy do because of this barrier.

You can share your discussions or comments on the radio show by calling [add phone number]. If you want more information on contraception, you can call BLM on 1131.

During the **10** minutes where the groups are discussing, quiet music plays on the radio.

After **3** minutes say “Hope your discussions are going well. Remember you can use picture cards 1 and 2 to help with your discussions.”

After **5** minutes: “We’ve got 5 minutes left before we continue, so keep discussing.”

After **7** minutes say “3 minutes left. Remember you can share your comments with us.”

Narrator: Now that you have discussed how insufficient knowledge on contraception have led to Maria and Phaddy having unprotected sex, let’s now hear what has happened next to their story.

SFX – A Door Being Shut; School ambience

Jane: Maria, long time my friend, frankly speaking I envy your relationship with Phaddy, you guys are something else. That’s what we call love.

Maria: Jane mmmh, thanks so much, you are my friend and we promised each other never to hide a thing from each other.

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Jane: (laughing) You still remember that promise? So, you want me to tell you who I'm dating right?

Maria: No Jane, things are not well between I and Phaddy.

Jane: What do you mean, you guys are a perfect match, what's wrong?

Maria: Mhuuu Jane it's a long story, but to cut it short, it seems I'm pregnant.

Jane: What? How? You mean Maria you were sleeping with Phaddy without any protection? No Maria! So how is it...

Maria: Phaddy is denying responsibility saying since we just had sex once so he cannot be responsible. Imagine he is accusing me of seeing other men- I don't even know what to do.

Jane: Maria! Why were you not using modern contraceptive methods? Don't you know at the government hospital they provide for that?

Maria: I was told that using contraceptives makes men impotent and Phaddy was against the idea. He was of a view that using contraceptives would mean that I don't love him.

Jane: So how old is your pregnancy, Maria?

Maria: This is my third month and due for delivery in September

Jane: What? September? Remember this is the time we start our final national examinations? Maria, will you be able to sit for the examinations?

Maria: (sobbing) It's doubtful, this time around I can't concentrate, I can't even spend time to study. I don't think I will manage, if my friends at school notices, I am pregnant, I will be a laughing stock.

Jane: Mmmh that's not good Maria, what will happen to that dream of becoming the first ever medical doctor from our village? Remember we have a bursary from that non-governmental organization?

Maria: Jane, I'm losing almost everything, Phaddy has left me, and I cannot sit my exams to go to the next level – my mum encouraged me to use modern contraceptives but I could not agree because I didn't know enough. Look now?

Jane: Don't cry Maria, it will be well.

Narrator: Thanks for all being together and listening to Maria's story. We've followed her journey and learned that, because of Maria's and Phaddy's insufficient knowledge on contraception, they had unprotected sex. They thought contraception causes men to be imponent – **that is not true!**

As a result, Maria has become pregnant, and she now doesn't know if she can sit her exams and become the doctor she has dreamed of becoming.

Do you think the barrier of insufficient knowledge on contraception affects young people in your community too? In your group now, I ask you to do the next two things:

1. Discuss whether this could happen to young people in your community.

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2. And if it can happen in your community too, it is now your opportunity to think of how you together can think of solutions for how to improve knowledge on modern contraception amongst young people in your area.

Think together what simple, local solutions you can implement to improve knowledge on contraception?

Can you do anything individually or together to overcome this barrier in your community? Maybe boys and adults, including HSAs, in your community can help?

Brainstorm together and please write these solutions down in your notebook.

You now have **10 minutes** to discuss these 2 things – 1) do young people in your community have too little knowledge on contraception and 2) what solutions you can implement to overcome this.

Please remember that you can use your picture cards to support you in this discussion...

Narrator:

...to strengthen the solutions you are coming up with, take the next **10 minutes** to discuss for each solution you have come up with:

- **What steps do you need to take to implement this solution?** Secretaries make note of these in your register.

- **What resources you need to implement this solution?** Secretaries make note of these resources in your register. Remember, **your group needs to be able to access the solutions yourselves.**

- And finally, **who should lead on implementation of this solution?** This is called the **taskforce**. Secretaries make note these the taskforce members in your action register.

Narrator:

Thanks for taking part in our show. **Taskforces, please use this opportunity to start implementing your solutions.** Remember at the end of this month we'll have a radio session to listen into what solutions you've all come up with and talk about tools that can help you in the implementation.

Please remember to share what you've discussed today with your peers and encourage them to join next week when we hear more from your fellow peers.

Narrator:

This is how we conclude our show today, we will be back again next week, at the same time. Enjoy your day.

****Broadcast Ends****