Baking Babies

Story by Musa Amy Ginyigazi

Every day we face challenges and for the youth, these challenges are so much more intense.

In South Africa, we are still fighting the scourge of teenage pregnancy and there is no end in sight as numbers are still on the increase. But a new challenge has reared its ugly head…

Teenagers are falling pregnant, carrying the baby for nine months and then – after all the agony of birth – they dump their babies!

This is an innocent soul who did not ask to be born, now killed by its parent! The question is WHY?

When we interviewed some of the teenage 'ex-mothers', their answers varied. One of the girls said, "It's not like we are doing this for fun, it's because when you become a mother (as a teenager) it is not easy."

She continued, "You start feeling that your friends and family are treating you differently now that you are a mother. You can't go out with friends because you need to stay home and look after the baby and breastfeed. This is why we intend to "bake" our babies; because we want to be accepted again!"

Those were the words we were told which left us unsatisfied and utterly shocked at the use of the word 'bake'. Our source claimed to be speaking from experience. We believe this is a shame.

Onele is another teenage girl who said, "It's because when the baby is born, the father rejects the baby and I see no use in keeping the baby while the father has rejected us."

This is a problem for teenage boys and girls because the father needs to contribute and care too. In our research, we discovered that girls are lying to their partners about being on contraception! Why lie? Why not just take the pill and prevent this mess?

Lies, misery and scandals are happening behind the scenes of teens' lives. The problem gets bigger every day. Many young people believe in total abstinence and for good reason.

What these girls fail to realise is that they are committing murder! Where is our humanity?