



**The Africa Regional
Conference on Abortion:
From Research to Policy**

**A MIDWIFE'S
PERSPECTIVE ON YOUNG
WOMEN AND ABORTION**

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- Background
- A midwife with Ghana Health Service
- Worked with GHS for four years now
- And Hobor CHPS compound for 3 years
- The population of Hobor :7000
- Major occupation - Pineapple farming
- The CHPS zone serves about 18 hamlets ranging from 1km to 25km from the facility
- Motor cycle is popular means of transport



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- Reproductive health indicators of Hobor community
 - high fertility
 - as young as 14 years some start having children
 - Family planning is usually practised by older young women
 - home delivery is very common
 - Abortion cases were being referred to the nearest health centre - about 25km away



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- Happy to enlist for the comprehensive abortion care training by Ipas and GHS
- Trained in both MA and MVA as well as counseling in 2013
- Serve both walk-in and bleeding cases



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- **Services**

- Between 2015 and June 2016 served 41 women
- Most (63%) of them young women of 24 years or below
- All of them went home with family planning with over half of them (59%) choosing implant, injectable (34%), Pills (5%) and condom (2%)



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- Enabling Environment
 - Work with opinion leaders such Assemblyman, Motor riders association, chemical sellers, women's group - giving them information about CAC
 - Facility staff are friendly to clients
 - Privacy and confidentiality
 - Community health nurses do referrals
 - "One-stop-shop" to provide all services under one roof
 - Short waiting time
 - Serving in a language that is easily understandable to the people
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- **Desires**
 - CAC providers to should be trained in provision of FP methods to help reduce repeat abortion
 - Young Women should be empowered to make SRH decision and act upon them.



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- **Conclusion**

The young woman is the pivot of her generation and must be empowered to make the right SRH choices in her life to enable her to contribute positively to her society and the world at large.

THANK YOU.