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Men cautioned over foetal alcohol syndrome

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Reginald Witbooi



FARR says consumption of alcohol by fathers during the process is also affecting the health of their unborn baby. (SABC)

The Foundation of Alcohol Related Research (FARR) has called on fathers too to abstain from consuming alcohol during the planning stage of pregnancy.

The Foundation says consumption of alcohol by fathers (and not only by mothers) is affecting the health of the unborn child.

According to the 2016 statistics, South Africa has the highest Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) prevalence rate of 6% in the world.

Chief Executive Officer of the FARR, Leana Olivier is of the view that more attention should be given to this

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"Like for example, in the east block countries, they looked at analysis of all these studies and they found exactly that the babies are smaller, and they did that studies in fatality clinics, where they knew exactly when the mother fell pregnant, and then they could ask the dads what they

drank, and when they drank it - and it indicated that the babies were smaller - so that also indicated that we need to look at this closer - and we need to call on the men to say: men you have to be strong and brave and be good fathers," says Olivier.



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