

# Parent and adolescent perception of adolescent sexuality: Implications for effective communication

By

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WHO Scholarship

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# Introduction

- More than 1.2 billion people aged between 10-19 years
- Enormous potential for community and national development and progress
- Healthy population, sexual development associated with curiosity and excitement
- Risky sexual behaviour (FMOH, 2003)
- Reproductive Health Burden (UNFPA, 2006; Reidner and Dehne, 2005; Anate et al, 1995)

# Introduction contd

- Sexuality Information important (UNGASS 2002)
- Parent-adolescent communication important especially in developing countries
- Parent-adolescent communication & less sexual risk taking (Dorio et al, 1999; Hutchinsom et al, 2003; Odimegwu et al, 2002)
- Negative attitude of adults, Suspicious and risk perspective (Speizer et al,2001; Baraiter et al, 2004)
- Perception of adolescents?

# Introduction contd.

- Conflict in perception -- Ineffective communication
- Not communicating or not giving adequate information (Miller et al, 1998; Rosenthal and Feldman, 1999 Iyaniwura, 2004; 2006)
- Negative attitude/Inadequate information – Poor reproductive health behaviour
- Important to influence the attitude of adults who influence adolescents

# Research Questions

- What is the perception of adults about adolescent sexuality?
- How do young people perceive their own sexuality?
- What are the areas of similarities and differences in the perception of adults and adolescents?
- What aspects of sexuality issues do parents discuss with their children and how do they talk about it?

# Objectives

## AIM

- To compare adult and adolescent perception about adolescent sexuality and examine its implication for the promotion of adolescent sexual health in South-Western Nigeria.

## Specific Objectives

- To determine adults perception of adolescent sexuality.
- To assess young people's perception of their own sexuality.

# Objectives

- To compare adult and young people's perception of adolescent sexuality.
- To understand the content and context of parent-child communication about sexual issues.
- Based on the above findings, to make recommendation on how to improve the effectiveness of adult –adolescent communication about adolescent sexuality.

# Methodology

- Study Area:
  - South Western Nigeria: Lagos (urban), Sagamu (Semi-urban) and a Rural community
- Study Design:
  - Semi-structured Interview
  - Focus group discussion
- Study Population:
  - Parents of children 10-14yrs (stratify by sex, education and social class)
  - Adolescents 10-14yrs (M &F, In-school and out of school) (Exclude married adolescents)



# Methodology contd.

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Sampling:

Community entry – Community/School

Data collection – Train interviewers (4)

Consent

Interview guide

Variables

Tape or Write

# Methodology contd

- Analysis

  - Content analysis procedure

  - By gender and location

- Ethical consideration

  - Approval of Ethical Board

  - Written Consent

  - Confidentiality

  - Counselling when necessary/Referral

# Dissemination of findings

- Community leaders
- Parents and young people
- Organizations that work with youths
- Publication

# Expected Outcome

- Information useful to improve educational programmes targeted at parents
- Improved understanding of adolescent sexuality – Accommodate differences in perception
- Improve the quality of their communication with their adolescents
- Better, more acceptable communication process - Effective communication
- Adopt safe sexual practices and promote the sexual health of adolescents

# Work Plan

Activities	M	J	Jy	A	S
A. Ethical clearance	X				
B. In depth interview and FGD					
● Select communities and schools	X				
● Community Entry	X				
● Develop survey tools (Interview guide)		X			
● Select and train interviewers		X			
● Conduct IDI and FGD			X		
● Data analysis			X	X	
● Report writing				X	X

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