Discovering Adolescent Beliefs about Sexuality in Mongolia

~~ *towards improved sexuality education* ~~

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Country profile at glance

- Population 2,832,224
- Moderately increasing growth rate of 1.45%
- High proportion of youth, 30% under 15 years old
- Population density of 1.5 per km sq is smallest in the world

Introduction

- Girls under age 20 years accounted for 7% of all pregnancies in 2000 and 5% in 2003.

- In 2003 girls under age 20 years constituted 6.1% of the total pregnant women and 8.3% of the total women opting for abortion.

- There is an increase of abortion rate among girls under age 20 years from 6.6% in 2002 to 8.2% of total abortions in Mongolia.

Research objectives

- To enhance design of an effective sexuality education programme curriculum which specifically addresses and counters false beliefs

- To learn how far the *Health Belief Model* can be used to predict risky sexual behaviour among adolescents

- To explore which of the six perceptions of the *Health Belief Model* may have greatest impact on likelihood of performing risky sexual behaviour

- To learn how far a differentiated curriculum in sexuality education may be necessary for adolescents in urban and rural areas

- To increase research capacity of local researchers

Research questions

- Could the *Health Belief Model* predict risky sexual behaviour among adolescents?

- Is this different among adolescents of rural and urban settings?

Research design

- Study population: girls and boys 15-17 years
- Study area: 2 districts in capital city, 2 *aimags* (administrative unit) in rural area
- Qualitative phase: focus group discussions or other method proposed by anthropologist
- Quantitative phase: piloted anonymous questionnaire

Research team members

- Principal investigator
- Study coordinator
- Anthropologist
- Statistician
- Research assistants (four)

Research timeframe

Months / Activity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Phase I – Preparation															
Finalization of research Proposal	■	■													
Selecting research team		■	■												
Developing detailed activities plan		■	■												
Phase II – Qualitative Survey															
Development of research Tools, piloting				■	■										
Training research assistants					■										
Sampling and Data collection						■	■								
Analysis of data							■	■							

Research timeframe

Phase III – Quantitative Survey																	
Development of questionnaire and measurement tool, piloting									▨	▨							
Sampling design										▨							
Training research assistants										▨							
Data collection											▨	▨					
Data analysis												▨	▨				
Phase IV - Finalization																	
Report writing, comments																▨	
Publication																	▨
Results dissemination																	▨
Final report to funding agency																	▨

THANK YOU

To all lecturers

To all participants

To the Course secretariat

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