

A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF "DELHI TEACHER' S ATTITUDE AWARENESS AND COMMITMENTS, AWARENESS AND COMMENTS TOWARDS AIDS AND STDS

Author

Avimanyu Panda

Supervisor

Dr. Biswajit Das

Dept. of Sociology, Jamia
Millia Islamia,
New Delhi-110025

Youth in India contributes about 40% of the population. Impart of HIV / AIDS/STD's on youth through the period of adolescence where the most youth, specially students affected in a situation where these diseases are spreading through hetero sexual activities. Children especially adolescent students are at a high risk of contracting AIDS virus from different sources. Adolescent is a period between the age group of 12-19 years of age. During this period most of the adolescent are studying in class IX-XII. It seems unethical to deny young people information on AIDS/STDs/HIV prevention that may save their lives. Yet most students have to still go through their school year without meeting a caring adult who discusses sexual health with them. Their knowledge to seek to understand and explore relevant facts and strategies, in the field of HIV / STDs/ AIDS in infection is important to be explored. This needed from the communities of family sources. Adolescence students needs have to be addressed on several levels i.e., physical, psychological, medical and through education in a society.

Objectives

This present study has been conducted with the following specific objectives.

1. To study the school teachers knowledge of causes of transmission of AIDS and STDs infection
2. To measure the attitude of school teachers towards AIDS & STDs education.
3. To know the various methods of teaching about AIDS used by the teachers in school.
4. To know the difficulties, short comings and problems of teachers in the emerging area of AIDS/Sills education.

Material & Methods

Initially 500 school teachers were contacted who are teaching science (biology) social studies and languages but the matter of fact is that only few teachers agreed and gave their views to come before the interview by the researcher A total of 98 school teachers

teaching in class IX–XII in the secondary and senior secondary schools of Delhi and 144 secondary and senior secondary school students (from class IX to XII) are constituted in the study sample. The teachers included in this study are randomly selected which indeed male and female married and unmarried urban and semi urban school teachers. Teachers teaching science (Biology), social studies, languages have been repeatedly interviewed after taking permission from the respective school teaching heads. The study is conducted by social survey method in form of interview and the following aspects of data have been collected from the teachers as well as the students. I Source of information on AIDS /STDs/HIV Since when learnt about these diseases. III Understanding how AIDS/ STDs are contracted IV The cure and preventive measure available for HIV / AIDS/STDs V Teachers attitude towards sex, sex education and AIDS/STDs/HIV education in open class room teaching. VI. How much do they teach about it and how. VII. Facilities/teaching aids/encouragement available in their respective schools VIII Difficulties and problems faced by them.

Results

1 This study revealed that the Indian school teachers although much aware of AIDS and my; but there exist a tremendous form of misconceptions regarding Sexual Transmitted Diseases, transmission and prevention of AIDS/STDs/HIV. 2 The adolescent students especially studying in rural or semi urban schools have a limited awareness, and knowledge of transmission and prevention about AIDS/HIV or other STDs. 3. A negative commitment of secondary and senior secondary school teachers in class–room teaching learning program/within the prescribed syllabus in their respective curriculum, especially at secondary (class IX to X) school level resulted in the poor reproductive knowledge among the adolescent student. 4. Partially/poor teaching of male and female reproductive system in the biology/science subject in open class room system has directly cast a stigma on the sex morality with rigid cultural heritage among the secondary and senior secondary school teachers of present Indian society leading various misconceptions on reproductive health knowledge and care among the adolescent school students in their personal and future married life 5. The attitude of the school students for the better knowledge on STDs/ AIDS/HIV is a better indication towards the prevalent of STDs/ AIDS/HIV which probably need students–teachers interactions in an open classroom set up with free and frank mind from both ends in India.

Discussion

National AIDS Control programs are still too narrowly conceived as government or official programs rather than as combining the efforts of central government, state governmental organizations, and the private sectors. Although the annual per capita budget in most developing countries is extremely small (for an example in Uganda) there are strong social as well as humanitarian arguments for providing basic as well as adequate informations/education/basic reproductive health science syllabus, It is ineffective if not supported by the religious teachers/academicians/school teachers as well as parents. Policies also urgently needed to help and protect the rights of the children's and adolescent students who at high risk. They face not only the threat to be

infected by STDs/ AIDS/HIV but it infected by these disease, are likely to be discarded by the present society because of policies that criminalize their activities and drive them farther from the sources of help and making them school drop-outs. Policies and programs to empower children and to change some of the most fundamental social inequities is urgent-need of the hour. Short-term approaches and narrowly targeted programs are not only wasteful and inefficient, but also mis the opportunity to begin to control spread of Sills/ AIDS/HIV Looking towards the result of this study Indian teacher are not prepared to share the challenge and not prepared to take this task because the teachers are bounded with traditions and taboos and are also embarrassed to discuss sex related issues with their students which include their socio-economic status and stability in the present Indian society. The bais human reproductive health through biology subject and science related to AIDS/Sills are not in practice through oral instructions the open class room system. in the other hand as this study revealed that with the changing scenario on lifestyle of the adolescent students, they are more prone to receive sex related education from their school teachers. Therefore, if the goal of preventive education on AIDS/STDs to influence the behavioral change among adolescent student in India, there is a need of the hour on a war-foot head' a rapport between the teachers and their students which will encourage them to discuss these sensitive issue. To convey about meaningful messages about AIDS/STDs to adolescents in school, it may be imperative to discuses reproductive health issues with their available curriculum and learning objectives and issues related to AIDS/Sills prevention.