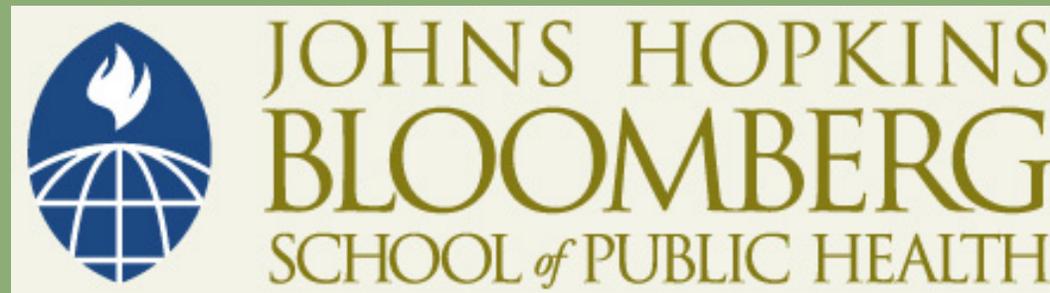


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JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Section D

Interventions and Implications

Interventions

- Sexual and reproductive health interventions improve knowledge and attitudes; smaller effect on behaviors
- No evidence that these interventions, including sex education, increases sexual activity
- Multiple-component programs appear to be more promising, especially if community based
- Interventions usually are not rigorously evaluated
- Access to services is minimal in most countries

Policy and Program Implications

- Provide general health info and accurate sex education, both in school and out of school
- Encourage active collaboration between health and education sectors in designing multi-pronged reproductive health programs
- Promote gender equity in the arenas of marriage and parenthood for all social classes

Policy and Program Implications

- Increase access to services for sexually active adolescents (female and male)
 - Contraceptive services and supplies
 - STD/HIV testing and treatment
- Improve maternal and child health care
 - Safe motherhood is a continuing priority
- Increase funding and prioritize youth needs
- Address personal and societal barriers

Domestic Issues

- Mathematical evaluation
 - Abstinence—only program participants were no more likely to delay sexual initiation
 - Once sexually active, had just as many partners and were just as likely to use contraceptives as non-participants
- Increase in abstinence only education
- What are teens learning?
 - 24% of males and 21% of females received abstinence education without receiving instruction about birth control in 2002, compared with 8-9% in 1995
 - Only 62% of sexually experienced female teens received information about contraception before first sex, compared with 72% in 1995
 - Only one out of three sexually experienced black males and fewer than half of sexually experienced black females received instruction about contraception before first sex

Domestic Issues

- What are teachers teaching?
 - More than nine in ten teachers believe that students should be taught about contraception, but one in four are prohibited from doing so
 - In 1999, one in four sex education teachers taught abstinence as the only way to prevent pregnancy and STIs—a huge increase from 1988, when the fraction was just one in fifty
- What do parents want taught?
 - 82% of adults support comprehensive sex education that teaches students about BOTH abstinence and other methods of preventing pregnancy and STIs
 - Only one out of three adults surveyed support abstinence-only education, while half oppose the abstinence-only approach

International Issues

- Developed countries
 - Nations with the most sex-positive sexual instruction have the best outcomes
 - ▶ Societal acceptance of adolescent sexual relationships
 - ▶ Comprehensive information about sexuality
 - ▶ Clear expectations about preventing pregnancy and STIs

International Issues

- Developing countries
 - Adolescents' knowledge of HIV prevention remains dangerously superficial
 - ▶ In a four country study (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Malawi, and Uganda) at least half of 15–19 year-olds did not receive any sex education
 - Fewer than 40% could both correctly identify ways of preventing the virus and reject common myths about HIV
 - Even fewer could provide correct information about preventing pregnancy

Annual Guttmacher Pop Quiz

1. What percentage of Americans are not virgins when they get married?
 - a) 50%
 - b) 75%
 - c) 95%
2. In Uganda, where abortion is illegal under nearly all circumstances, how does the abortion rate compare to that of the United States?
 - a) It is more than twice the U.S. rate
 - b) It is less than half the U.S. rate
 - c) There are virtually no abortions in Uganda
3. In the United States, from 1995 to 2002, the proportion of teens receiving formal instruction about birth control methods:
 - a) Increased among both genders
 - b) Declined among both genders
 - c) Declined among males but not females

Pop Quiz

4. In the West African nation of Ghana, what percent of 15-19 year old girls think they cannot get pregnant if they have sex standing up?
 - a. 1%
 - b. 7%
 - c. 21%
5. Among women having an abortion in the United States, what percent identify themselves with a religion?
 - a. 26%
 - b. 33%
 - c. 78%
6. Which of the following statements about emergency contraception (EC) is true?
 - a. In the U.S., EC must be kept behind pharmacy counters
 - b. Women under age 18 in the U.S. still need a prescription
 - c. The U.S. government does not distribute EC through its foreign aid programs
 - d. All of these statements are true

Pop Quiz

7. For every \$1 the U.S. government spends on family planning services under Title X, how much is saved in pregnancy-related health costs?
 - a. \$1.90 for every \$1
 - b. \$2.60 for every \$1
 - c. \$3.80 for every \$1
8. The 24% decline in teen pregnancy in the United States between 1995 and 2002 is mainly the result of:
 - a. A sharp decline in adolescent sexual activity
 - b. An increase in oral and anal sex and a decrease in vaginal sex
 - c. Improved contraceptive use
 - d. Widespread fear of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections

Pop Quiz

9. In Sub-Saharan Africa, where the AIDS epidemic has hit hardest, condom supplies amount to about how many condoms per man per year?
- a. 100
 - b. 50
 - c. 5
10. True or False: Fewer than half of all sexually active adult men in the United States receive any sexual or reproductive health services each year
- a. True
 - b. False

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