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

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WHO Scholarship
Proposal presented for the
Training Course in Sexual Health Research – WHO 2007
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.

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

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<td>B. In depth interview and FGD</td>
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<td>● Develop survey tools (Interview guide)</td>
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<td>● Select and train interviewers</td>
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