

Male Involvement Program

Goal:

To reduce teen pregnancy and STD risk behavior among males 17 to 26 years of age

Program Objectives:

- a) increase condom use among program participants
- b) increase contraceptive use among participants and sex partners
- c) reduce no. of participants 20 and over involved in sexual relationships with females 17 and under
- d) reduce no. of participants with multiple sex partners

Target Population: Males 17 to 26 years
of age

Target Area: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Co., NC

Funding Sources: 1) NC Dept. of Health &
Human Services – Women’s Health Division
2) CDC

Intervention Strategies

Best Practice Model - “Be Proud, Be Responsible” AIDS Curriculum

- 1) Afrocentric AIDS curriculum
- 2) Tested on Afr. Amer. middle schoolers
- 3) Interactive -videos, games, exercises
- 4) Proven effective in increasing condom and contraceptive use among teens; encouraging teens to delay sex and reduce no. of sex partners

Intervention Strategies

“Be Proud, Be Responsible” expanded to include sessions on:

- 1) reproductive anatomy & physiology
- 2) family planning/contraceptive methods
- 3) communication in relationships
- 4) healthy relationships
- 5) domestic violence
- 6) substance abuse
- 7) cultural awareness/cultural competency
- 8) other male health issues

Intervention Strategies

Support Group/Aftercare Component

- 1) to reinforce positive changes in behavior among males completing program
- 2) to mentor males completing program
- 3) to provide ongoing social support to graduates
- 4) to address male health issues not addressed in 14-week core curriculum

Evaluation Protocol

Quantitative Evaluation

- 10-item sexuality survey to gather baseline, post program, 3-month follow-up and 6-month follow-up data on sexual behavior of participants and controls

Quantitative Indicators

Quantitative Variables:

- 1) no. of sexually active males
- 2) no. of males with multiple sex partners
- 3) age of youngest female sexual partners
- 4) condom and contraceptive use behavior
- 5) types of contraceptives used by males and female sex partners
- 6) no. of teen pregnancies fathered

Evaluation Protocol

Quantitative Evaluation (Cont'd):

Two groups targeted:

- 1) Males enrolled in program (participants)
- 2) Males NOT enrolled in program (controls)

Qualitative Evaluation

Focus Group Participants

- 3 groups of graduates
- 3 groups of controls
- 1 focus group comprised of Advisory Board Member

Purpose of Focus Group Study

- To assess participant and control's knowledge, beliefs, attitudes and values regarding
 - 1) number of sexual partners
 - 2) protection of self and partners from STDs and unintended pregnancy
 - 3) partner selection
 - 4) responsibilities as sexual partners and fathers
 - 5) communication in relationships

Qualitative Evaluation

Focus Group Study

- Advisory Board Focus Group:

To gather input on:

- 1) impact of the program on the Charlotte area
- 2) strengths and weaknesses of the program
- 3) areas of program improvement
- 4) role of the board

Participant Recruitment

- Targets: a) Minimum of 45 program participants per year (i.e., 17 to 26 year old males) and b) 20 controls per year (same age group targeted)
- Recruitment Venues-Participants: Sheriff Department's Work Release Program, Health Dept. Clinics, alternative schools, Structured Day Program (Sheriff's Dept.), community, other agencies serving 17 to 26 year old males

Recruitment of Controls

- Recruitment Venues-Controls:
 - 1) community (parks, shopping centers, recreation centers, etc.)
 - 2) alternative schools

Participation Incentives

1. Movie passes (8\$ each)
2. T-shirts (\$10 each)
3. Debit cards (\$20 each)
4. Phone cards
5. Books
6. Personal care items
7. Stipend (\$15 per session attended)

Participant and Control Group Demographics

Participants

86% -17 to 26 yrs old

82% African Amer.

12% White

2% Hispanic

2% Asian

2% Other/Unknown

Controls

92%-17 to 26 yrs. old

85% African Amer.

11% White

1% Hispanic

3% Asian

0% Other/Unknown

Participant and Control Group Demographics

Education Status

Participants

0% College Graduates

34% Hi School-GED

52% Less Hi School

13% Some Col-Trade

1% Unknown

Controls

1% College Graduate

38% Hi School-GED

47% Less Hi School

14% Some Col-Trade

0% Unknown

Type of Contraception Used

Participants and Controls (Baseline Only)

1. Condoms (57%)
2. Birth Control Pills (30%)
3. Withdrawal (19%)
4. Other-No method (9%)
5. Depo Provera (9%)
6. Norplant (3%)
7. Sterilization (3%)

Program Outcomes

Participation Rates

- Recruited 208 participants (1-01 thru 10-04)
- An additional 54 males enrolled 1-05
- Exceeded enrollment goal of 225 males by 16%
(208 + 54 = 262 males)
- 152 out of 208 males enrolling between 1-01 and 10-04 completed program (73% graduation rate)
- 136 out of 152 graduates completed entire survey series (90% of graduates)
- Recruited 74 controls (74% of goal)

Participation Rates (Attendance)

Of 208 males enrolled:

- 1) 83% attended half of an education series before dropping out or being excluded
- 2) 69% attended 10 or more session before exclusion
- 3) 62% attended 12 or more sessions before exclusion
- 4) 35% had perfect attendance

Teen Pregs Males 19 & Under

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 22 | 21 | (-) 1 |
| Part. (136) | 67 | 74 | (+) 7 |
| Total (210) | 89 | 95 | (+) 6 |

Teen Pregs Males 20 & Older

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 2 | 2 | No Change |
| Part. (136) | 9 | 7 | (-) 2 |
| Total (210) | 11 | 9 | (-) 2 |

Adult Males with Teen Sex Partners

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 4 | 1 | ↓ 75% |
| Part. (136) | 3 | 4 | ↑ 33% |
| Total (210) | 7 | 5 | ↓ 29% |

Visits for STD Treatment

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 9 | 3 | ↓ 67% |
| Part. (136) | 11 | 0 | ↓ 100% |
| Total (210) | 20 | 3 | ↓ 85% |

Multiple Sex Partners -3 Months

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 19 | 10 | ↓ 47% |
| Part. (136) | 28 | 20 | ↓ 29% |
| Total (210) | 47 | 30 | ↓ 36% |

Condoms Used “None of the Time”

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (sig) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|------------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 17 | 17 | 0% |
| Part. (136) | 34 | 1 | ↓ 97% |
| Total (210) | 51 | 18 | ↓ 65% |

Condoms Used “All of the Time”

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (sig) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|------------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 14 | 10 | ↓ 29% |
| Part. (136) | 21 | 64 | ↑ 205% |
| Total (210) | 35 | 74 | ↑ 111% |

Contraception Used “None of the Time”

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (sig) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|------------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 10 | 5 | ↓ 50% |
| Part. (136) | 33 | 2 | ↓ 94% |
| Total (210) | 43 | 7 | ↓ 84% |

Contraception Used “All of the Time”

| Respondents | Baseline | 6 Month FU | Changes (ns) |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | No. | No. | |
| Controls (74) | 22 | 29 | ↑ 32% |
| Part. (136) | 33 | 81 | ↑ 145% |
| Total (210) | 55 | 110 | ↑ 100% |

Lessons Learned

1. Can successfully recruit and engage older teen and young adult males in teen pregnancy prevention efforts
2. Contrary to stereotypes, young males want to improve/better themselves
3. Carefully planned and implemented programs can be effective in reducing teen pregnancy and STD risk behavior among older teens and young adult males

Lessons Learned (Cont'd)

4. To maximize effectiveness, teen pregnancy prevention programs targeting males with little formal education need to incorporate strategies for assisting with economic issues (employment/job skills training, education)
5. Incentives are important
6. Staff selection is critical
7. Establish parameters/expectations regarding participation, accountability, behavior