T10-P-03

Cyprus university students’ knowledge of HIV-AIDS: a little knowledge is a dangerous weapon

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The objective of the present study was to determine Cypriot University students’ knowledge of HIV-AIDS. Prior research has indicated that high school students knew general information about HIV-AIDS but were uncertain about specific issues or procedures surrounding HIV-AIDS.

A quasi-experimental post-test only design was used. An HIV-AIDS knowledge measure that assessed misconceptions and general information was the outcome measure. University students, in various courses, were introduced to the research and asked to voluntarily participate. Following signing the informed consent, the questionnaire was distributed to the participants.

The analyses focused on whether male vs. female, rural vs. urban, area of study, sexual orientation, or being sexually active had greater knowledge about the general issues and the misconceptions surrounding HIV-AIDS. It is hypothesized that greater knowledge would allow one to take precautions to prevent one self from becoming infected. The research led to the following conclusions. First, there were no statistically significant differences in the students’ general and misconceptions knowledge regarding HIV-AIDS. Second, there is a serious concern regarding the misconceptions surrounding HIV-AIDS that could potentially be putting the sexually active students at risk for contracting the disease. Third, although these students had been exposed to HIV-AIDS knowledge both in schools and through public campaigns, it is obvious that much more needs to be done regarding the misconceptions surrounding HIV-AIDS and prevention.

T10-P-04

No barriers sex. The Kamasutra for disabled people: a short guide to a creative and recreational sexuality of the male disabled subject

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One of the issues about disabled people’s sexuality (DSex) concerns its purposes. The aim of their sexlife should be the achievement of the highest possible autonomy, granting them a condition of self-determination. This principle has often been replaced by that of the lowest indispensable autonomy. This lack is due to erroneous beliefs, led by irrationality and prejudices; frequently the opinion about this issue ranges from the sex denial to the credence of it as useless and spoiled. Parents themselves defend their disabled children by creating a world without sex. Sometimes the lack of the importance of sexuality depends on the disabled subject, especially when disabilities follow to strong traumas, and just later on he will renovate interest for sex. Thanks to the progress in Andrology and Reproductive Medicine, there has been a new propensity to acknowledge the right of DSex; physicians can help disabled men to live sexuality naturally thanks to new correct approaches, which supply a suitable option for them and their partner. The discovery of a different sexual ability becomes a sublimation of individual creativity, embodying a right to sexuality that the UN itself has granted to disabled people. In 2003, European Year of People with Disabilities, we reported all that in a publication, for physicians, disabled and their families, with practical advices for sexuality, commenting in a scientific way, and with some irony, the Kamasutra for disabled people’s images. Purpose of this job is to testify our experience in the support of DSex and their procreative projects.

T10-P-05

What do Turkish teenage girls ask about sex?

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Objective: The purposes of this study were to investigate the content of Turkish teenage girls’ questions about sexuality and to gain some understanding of teenage educational needs about sexuality in Turkey.

Design and method: Questions were accepted from teenage girls via e-mail by a monthly magazine’s editor (HEY GIRL). Questions about sexuality were classified and sent to either a psychiatrist or a gynecologist by the editor. During the period from April 2005 to September 2007, 55 consecutive questions responded by a psychiatrist- sex educators (SD) took part in the study.

Results: We determined that questions accumulated in seven main groups: 1. Relationship with boyfriend, 2. Sexual intercourse, 3. Porn/Internet, 4. Sexual orientation, 5. Masturbation, 6. Virginity, and 7. Sexual Avoidance. The biggest group included questions about boyfriend relationship (23%). In the second biggest group, the questions were related with sexual intercourse (16%). Surprisingly, we found the same ratio in porn/internet questions and it was very high (16%). Sexual orientation questions frequency was 9%. Frequency of questions related with masturbation, virginity and sexual avoidance was equal and the percentage was 7%. The other aspects of sexuality (unwanted pregnancy, abuse, rape, negative body image, menstruation) were asked rarely.

Conclusions: They don’t know how to cope with pressure to have sex and not to have sex.