

ABSTRACT

A Study of the Factors Affecting Condom Usage Among Undergraduate Students at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

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This study sought to identify the factors affecting condom usage as expressed by a sample of undergraduate students of The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad. Data were collected through interviews held with 10 participants (five male and five female). Findings showed that the main factors affecting condom usage were pregnancy prevention and relationship status. Therefore, more than half of the participants identified condoms primarily as a contraceptive, rather than as a barrier preventing sexually transmitted diseases. Although several students were concerned with relationship status, condoms were mainly used with casual sex partners. Factors inhibiting condom usage by the students were identified as: 1) concern with reduced satisfaction, 2) interruption of the sexual encounter, 3) passion during sex, and 4) the discomfort experienced in purchasing condoms.

Keywords: Condom use; University students; Student attitudes; The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine; Case studies; Sexual behavior; Undergraduate students; Trinidad and Tobago