

ABSTRACT

HIV/AIDS Knowledge, Sexual Behaviours and Perception of Risk Among Adolescents Attending Trade Schools in South Trinidad

Marina Dawn Fraser

This study sought to determine adolescent students' level of knowledge about HIV/AIDS, their sexual behaviours, and their perceptions of the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Data were collected through a self-administered questionnaire completed by a randomly selected sample of 62 male and 19 female students, aged 15 to 24 years, at three trade schools in South Trinidad. It was found that while many of the adolescents possessed moderate levels of knowledge about HIV/AIDS, their sexual behaviours and perceptions of risk were not always consistent with their level of cognition.

Keywords: Adolescents; Sexual behavior; Knowledge level; Vocational training centres; HIV/AIDS; Perceptions; Student attitudes; Risk assessment; Vocational education students; Trinidad and Tobago