

ABSTRACT

Political Economy of HIV and AIDS
in Abra Broki a Sub Urban Community in Suriname

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Several researchers have explained HIV and AIDS from scientific and medical perspectives, but this study aims to explore whether there are other perspectives that could better explain the alarming and increasing spread of the virus. The study seeks to explore, identify and establish the significance of political and economic situations as drivers of risky sexual behaviors that could lead to the spread of the virus, particularly in sub urban communities.

This study utilized grounded theory approach with qualitative methodologies such as observations, interviews and focus group discussion to collect data in Abra Broki and two other similar sub urban communities of Suriname. The findings showed that HIV and AIDS in Abra Broki is associated and can be explained by how the political and economy system over the years have positioned the community into the larger Suriname.

The results show that HIV prevention interventions should be gender based and holistic; not just information sharing, but seek to address the broader community development challenges and economic issues such as poverty, low standard of living, unemployment and lack of empowerment of the residents.

Keywords: Oyeleye Gideon Adeniyi; HIV and AIDS; Political and economy system; Poverty; Suriname.