

P3.9. Impact of Radio Drama amongst Youths in South Western Nigeria Regarding Sex Education -

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Background/Significance: The media has a great impact on the youths of this generation as it is very widely available in many forms. It is fast emerging the most effective way to educate youths about sex related issues. It is also true that in south western Nigeria, it is a taboo for parents to talk to their children about reproductive health issues. So many youths lack the information on sex and its related problems including sexually transmitted diseases. This poster shows from the perspectives of a youth how the impact of the messages that a radio drama on reproductive health sends out affect youths and their opinions. It shall discuss as well, what other methods the media can exact.

Methodology: A radio drama programme titled "Abule Oloke Merin" in a Nigerian local language (Yoruba) is aired on FM radio stations across south western part of Nigeria which addresses questions, queries and issues about AIDS, sex and all issues concerning sexuality. The radio program is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Findings: Many people have called on the radio programmes thanking the organizers for the information given and declaring a change in sexual behavior. Many youths have declared no sex before marriage. For those who cannot abstain display openness in purchasing of condoms at shops or pharmacies.

Knowledge Contribution: There is no argument about the impact that the media exacts on youths is been felt. The media will definitely continue playing an important role in the disseminating of information, not only to youths, but the community as well.