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## APPENDIX

### I. Relevant Graphs, Tables And Verbatim Responses

### II. Questionnaire

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Over the years the National HIV/AIDS Commission has scaled up its efforts to reduce the cases and spread of HIV/AIDS in Barbados. The two year old organization had conducted a number of initiatives over the years which were geared towards various sectors within the community. These included community groups, business houses and schools,. Of particular importance to the Commission is the educating of the youth with respect to HIV/AIDS. Many of the initiatives undertaken by the Commission sought to educate the younger generation about HIV/AIDS as well as impact behavioural and attitudinal changes.

On September 3,2002 the Commission conducted a survey to assess the knowledge level of the youth with respect to HIV/AIDS. The findings of this survey informed the content and the structure of a second workshop which was conducted on September 10<sup>th</sup> of the same year.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

On September 10, 2002 the National HIV/AIDS Commission conducted the second of its youth workshop among members of the Richard Stoute Teen Talent Programme. The workshop sought to impact the knowledge, attitude, and behaviour of the youth with respect to HIV/AIDS and persons living with HIV/AIDS. Subsequent to the workshop a survey was conducted among participants to assess the extent to which the workshop had influenced the three dimensions addressed, and to provide other pertinent information that would guide the Commission in the planning of future initiatives directed toward the youth.

### **3.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF WORK**

For ease of reference, the Terms of Reference and Scope of Work for the exercise are enumerated below as follows: -

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The objective of the research exercise is as follows: -

- *To analyse data collected from the Richard Stout Teen Talent Survey*

#### **SCOPE OF WORK**

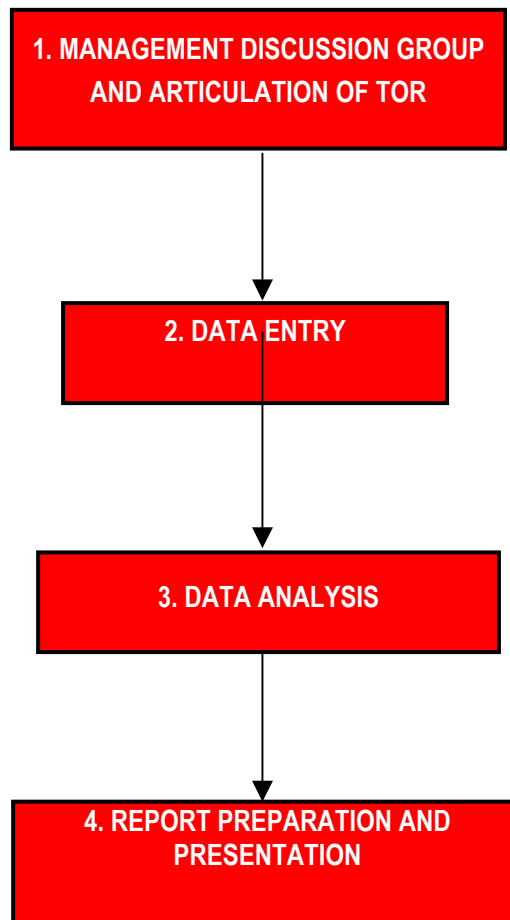
- To perform data entry operations on data collected during the Richard Stout Teen Talent Workshop Survey
- To analyse data collected from sixty questionnaires
- Prepare a report on the findings of the survey

## **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.2 METHODOLOGY**

The methodology for the exercise is outlined in the figure below.

**Figure 1: Summary of the Approach and Methodology**



#### **4.2.1 SAMPLE COMPOSITION**

The sample consisted of sixty respondents (35% males and 65% females) between the ages of ten and twenty five from the primary to the tertiary level of the educational system. Over one-third (68.9%) of the males were between the ages of eighteen and twenty one, whereas 76.2% of the females were between the ages of fifteen and nineteen. This constituted 51.6% of the sample.

#### **4.2.2 MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION GROUP**

The Management Discussion Group was an opportunity for the engagement team and the client to discuss the exercise to determine specific content and time commitments of the deliverables.

#### **4.2.3 DATA ENTRY**

Data from completed questionnaires were entered into a specialized software programme where the responses were translated into tabular, graphical and textual information for analysis.

#### **4.2.4 DATA ANALYSIS**

Responses to dichotomous questions were given as frequency distribution statistics. Statistical data was cross-tabulated to compare and contrast perceptions between respondent segments.

## **5.0 FINDINGS**

### **5.1 SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

Apart from the traditional reference groups of family and friends respondents gathered their information on HIV/AIDS from the media (56.7%) and workshops (33.3%). Nearly one half of the participants (48.3%) received their information from family and friends (23.3% and 25% respectively). One-seventh (71.4%) of the males gathered their information from the media while just under one quarter (23.8%) received information from workshops. Nearly half as many females were informed via the media as males. The amount of females who cited workshops as a source of information was approximately twice that of the opposite sex; 38% compared to 23.8%.

### **5.2 EXPOSURE TO PERSONS WITH HIV AND AIDS**

Two-fifths of the respondents indicated that they knew someone who is HIV positive. These were equal percentages of males and females and were between the ages of sixteen and nineteen. Only one-third of those interviewed said they had been exposed to persons living with AIDS.

### **5.3 A HEALTHY LOOKING PERSON CANNOT HAVE HIV**

Nearly all of the respondents subscribed to the view that a healthy looking person can actually have HIV. Those who were of an opposing view represented 1.7% of the sample and was among those who had not been in contact with someone who was HIV positive.

### **5.4 CONTRACTION AND PREVENTION OF HIV**

Overall it would appear that the popular myths and stigmas associated with HIV are not too prevalent among this age group. In relation to the myths surrounding the contraction of HIV, nearly all of the respondents (95%) disagreed with the view that black people are more likely to catch HIV. This view was shared by 66.7% of those nineteen years of age and 33% of those a year their senior. The former group had indicated that they had received their information on HIV from reading. Responses indicated that respondents were aware of the importance of condoms in preventing HIV as nearly all (91.7%) agreed with the proposed statement about condom use and HIV prevention.

Respondents, however, disagreed with the other suggested means of HIV prevention. With regard to having sex with a virgin and drinking more than modest amounts of alcohol as means of protecting oneself against HIV 98.3% and 96.7% indicated their disagreement. The percentages of participants in agreement with these statements were small 1.7% and 3.3% respectively.

### **5.5 SPREAD OF HIV**

Other misconceptions about HIV that seemed to have been eroded are the beliefs that sex is the only way of spreading HIV and that only homosexuals spread HIV. In both instances over ninety three percent of the respondents (93.3% and 96.7% respectively) indicated that they did not have similar perceptions. All of

those who had indicated that they knew someone who was HIV positive agreed that sex was not the only way of spreading HIV thus representing 43.9% of those against the statement. The remaining 56.1% never knew anyone who was HIV positive. These seem to suggest that individuals knew definitively about the causes of HIV and are not relying on their experiences, that is, their interaction with persons who are HIV positive. A total of 94.8% of the respondents disagreed with both statements. Eighty percent of those who disagreed with the view that only homosexuals spread HIV also knew someone who was HIV positive.

There appears to be some doubt as to whether HIV will definitely lead to death as the percentages of those in agreement and disagreement have varied somewhat compared to other variables.

### **5.6 LIKELIHOOD OF CONTRACTING HIV**

When asked about the likelihood of their contracting HIV more than thirty two percent of the respondents indicated that they were at risk. 8.8% said that they were very likely whereas 24.6% said likely. Just over two-fifths (42.1%) thought it unlikely that they would succumb to the virus. Approximately forty percent of those who said that they were unlikely to contract HIV have had sexual experiences whereas 28.6% of those who indicated that they were very unlikely to get the virus have also had sexual encounters. Those who have never had any sexual experiences accounted for 18.2% of those who said that they were likely (9.1%), and very likely (9.1% to become victims of the virus.

### **5.7 SEXUAL PRACTICE AND CONDOM USAGE**

Approximately four-fifths (78.6) of the respondents have had a sexual experience with 73.8% having their first encounter between the ages of thirteen and seventeen and 12.9% from twelve years and under. Nearly two-thirds of those who have had sexual experiences are still sexually active. Of those who are still currently active seventy percent are between the ages of sixteen and twenty. 14.7% of the sexually active respondents indicated that they were not confined to one partner and 8.6% have two or more partners. These were both males and females between the ages of fifteen and twenty.

Two-fifths of the sample indicated that they always use a condom during sex while 39.1% used it sometimes and 19.6% never used it. Respondents with two partners indicated that they always use a condom while those with more than two partners use condoms some of the time.

Only 55.8% of the respondents believed that earlier exposure to the HIV/AIDS workshop would have impacted on their sexual practices. Ironically 93.2% still indicated that they recognize the importance of waiting before engaging in early sex. Respondents who did not see the importance of waiting before engaging in sex had their first sexual experience between the ages of nine and sixteen and are now between the ages of sixteen and nineteen. Just under two-thirds (64.3%) of the participants were willing to consider abstaining from sex until they were married. Those who opposed this view were those who had indicated that they did not see the importance of waiting for sex.

## **5.8 FRIENDSHIP WITH HIV/AIDS PERSON**

Responses from respondents indicated that individuals are no longer fearful of being in close contact with persons living with AIDS or who might be HIV positive. Ninety-three percent of the participants indicated their willingness to make such a gesture. Half of those who were not willing to become friends with someone living with AIDS or someone who is HIV positive knew someone who was HIV positive.

## **5.9 ENTERTAINERS AND THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS**

Consensual opinion about entertainers and the fight against HIV/AIDS is that artists can help to disseminate information through their art forms, especially songs. Other views were that entertainer were mentors for the younger generation and should therefore set proper examples for the youth to imitate. Other views included:

- Keep discussing it, or sing about it. Keep the subject alive.
- Send positive and useful messages to the community through entertainment
- They can have AIDS programmes
- The most important thing they can do is abstain and encourage their friends to do the same

## **5.10 HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAMMES**

Just over two-fifths (44.6%) of the respondents felt that the HIV/AIDS prevention programmes were not reaching young people. This view was held by most respondents between the ages of sixteen and nineteen. This represents the group who does not see the importance of waiting before engaging in sex and who are still sexually active.

## **5.11 WAYS TO PROMOTE ABSTINENCE AND PREVENT SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS**

- Have weekly seminar
- Introduce the topic in schools, start teaching from young
- Let people share their experiences who are suffering from AIDS share their experience
- Put permanent available organization in schools
- Have a concert with rapper so that young people would want to go

These represent some of the ways in which participants felt that the National HIV/AIDS Commission can help promote abstinence and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

## **5.12 CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD PERSON LIVING WITH HI/AIDS**

As was indicated by 94.4% of the respondents, the National HIV/AIDS Commission was successful in its initiative to bring about a change in attitude towards persons living with HIV/AIDS.

## **6.0 CONCLUSION**

Efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination as they relate to persons who are HIV positive or persons living with AIDS seemed to have been successful as in many cases respondents expressed a willingness to interact with these individuals. Participants however, seem to be only at the second level of the Awareness, Attitude and Behavioural continuum. Respondents have moved from the awareness stage evident by their knowledge of the causes and spread of HIV/AIDS. However there seems to be no conviction or desire as in many cases respondents have indicated that they do not always use condoms even though they have multiple partners. In other instances participants said that the HIV/AIDS workshop would not have prevented them from engaging in early sex.

It is worth noting that the sixteen to nineteen age group is the most active and the group that tend to relax the condoms requirement and have multiple partners. Any further communication geared toward this group should seek to propel individuals to the next two levels of the behavioural continuum; that is, to conviction and desire.