

Symposium

SEXUAL EDUCATION: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND COMFORT AMONG MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

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Will be presented by Margarida on Aug 05, 11.10-11.30

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Abstract

Context: Because HIV is increasing among youngsters and they spend a significant part of their lives in school, it is accepted as the suitable place to deliver sexual education. The aims of this research were to assess middle and high school teachers' knowledge, attitudes and comfort towards teaching Sexual Education.

Methods: Structured self – reported questionnaires translated and adapted from QAAPES and AKCT were responded by 371 teachers accessed through snowball techniques.

Results: The findings show teachers feel somewhat comfortable, fairly knowledgeable and liberal. The analysis of differences between gender, experienced and non-experienced teachers in teaching sex education was carried out using ANOVA. The results revealed significant variation in responses by gender to attitudes, as well as between experienced and non-experienced teachers in what knowledge, attitudes and comfort are concerned.

Conclusions: The results of the present study suggest most teachers are favorable to sex education at school, showing quite positive knowledge, attitudes and comfort. These skills are crucial since they are prerequisite to sex education and therefore to promote sexual and reproductive health.

Keywords: Sexual education, Knowledge, Attitudes, Comfort, Teachers

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