

Risky Sexual Behavior and Condom Use among Youth in Botswana

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ABSTRACT This paper examines the risky sexual behavioral patterns and condom use among the young people in Botswana. A multi-stage sampling design was adopted in selecting a sample of 331 (129 males and 202 females) students aged 17-24 years old at the University of Botswana Gaborone, Botswana. The data were collected through a structured self-administered questionnaire. Two-thirds of the sample ($N=217$; 66%) reported that they were sexually active. Almost half and a quarter of the sexually active respondents had multiple sexual partners and casual sex respectively in the year prior to the study. Also, a third had unprotected sex during the month prior to the survey. Perceived condom use self-efficacy ($M = 24.32$, $SD = 4.09$) differed among those who had urban versus rural upbringing ($t(3.915, df = 205, p < .001)$). There is an urgent need to include the avoidance of risky sexual behaviors in the ongoing HIV/AIDS campaign for the young people in Botswana.