

Safe-sex via HIV/AIDS Awareness and Condom Use: The Compliant Checklist of Nigerian Male and Female Youths

O. S. Elegbeleye

Department of Psychology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-ife, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT HIV which stands for Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus, is a virus that infects the body and destroys the body defence cells. The virus when it infects the human body system leads to AIDS which is Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Because of the deadly nature of the AIDS scourge, its speed of contagion and the high statistics of AIDS scourge devastation so far recorded in Sub-Saharan Africa, one is compelled to want to know the effectiveness of the media campaign aimed at sensitizing non-sufferers to steps that can be taken to avoid contracting AIDS. Six such steps were identified in line with the pronouncement of the National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA). The objective of this study therefore focuses on ascertaining the awareness levels of the Nigerian Youths to the reality of the existence of HIV/AIDS, the extent to which they are ready to practice the protection points listed by NACA, the percentage of subjects who are prepared to and actually do use condom for protection from contracting HIV and the possible influences of certain salient factors on subjects' readiness to protect themselves from contracting HIV. The findings reveal a high level of awareness, and a significant level of readiness to engage in the use of protective measures for protection against contracting HIV, and the salient factors of age, course of study, socio economic status and level of religiosity have little or no influence on subjects' attitude to engaging in protective measures so as to stay clear of HIV problems.