

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS STDs, HIV AND
AIDS AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**(A Case Study of Selected Secondary Schools of Bhaktapur
District)**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
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By

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RECOMMENDATION

This Thesis entitled “**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS STDS, HIV AND AIDS AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: A Case Study of Selected Secondary Schools of Bhaktapur District** by **Rambha Kumari Goit** is prepared under my supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master’s Degree of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge, the study is original and uses primary data. It carries useful information about STDs, HIV and AIDS among secondary school students in Bhaktapur district. I, therefore, recommend it for the evaluation to the thesis Committee.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	:	Acquired immune Deficiency syndrome
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	:	Central Department of Population studies Training
CSWS	:	Commercial Sex Workers
FPAN	:	Family Planning Association of Nepal
GOs	:	Governmental Organizations
HIV	:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICPD	:	International Conference on Population and
INGOs	:	International Non-Governmental organizations
KAP	:	Knowledge, Attitude and Practice
MOH	:	Ministry of Health
MOPE	:	Ministry of Population and Environment
NAPCP	:	National AIDS Prevention and Control programs
NCASC	:	National Center for AIDS and STDS Central
NDHS	:	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organization
RTIs	:	Reproductive Tract Infections
SAARC	:	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SLC	:	School Leaving Certificate
SRH	:	Sexual Reproductive Health
STDs	:	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STIs	:	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SWs	:	Sex Workers
TU	:	Tribhuvan University
UN	:	United Nations
UNESCO	:	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VDC	:	Village Development Committee
WB	:	World Bank
WHO	:	World Health Organization

ABSTRACT

Though the prevalence of STDs including HIV and AIDS in the world is not a new one, during the past decades, there has been a wide spread of major components of health hazards. The prevalence rate is even high in developing countries, where the knowledge related to such STDs and their treatment is less accessible. Similarly, the increasing problems of drug addiction, pre-marital sexual relationship use of multiple partners, etc. among the adolescents have made them more vulnerable towards STDs, HIV and AIDS. Although the registered cases of STDs, HIV and AIDS in with various NGOs and INGOs are providing best efforts to minimize the spread of such diseases, still the rate of STDs, HIV and AIDS infection cases are increasing rapidly over time.

This study was conducted with an objective to examine the knowledge, attitude and behaviour of secondary school going adolescents towards human sexuality, STDs, HIV and AIDS. For this, six secondary schools of Bhaktapur district were selected by using lottery method. A total of 120 adolescents (60 male and 60 female) between age group 13-19 and studying in grades 9, 10 were selected and interviewed in order to collect the primary data.

Data shows that majority of respondents have some knowledge of STDs including HIV and AIDS, their causes, symptoms and preventive measures. Most of them believe that STDs, HIV and AIDS are transmitted due to unsafe sex, use of unsterilized syringes and transfusion of infected blood. They also have opinion that such infections could be prevented by using condom during sexual intercourse, avoiding sex with multiple partners and avoiding the use of contaminated syringes and blood. Newspapers and magazines, text books and teachers were the main sources of information for most of the respondents to get information on STDs, HIV and AIDS. Most of the respondents viewed it wrong to engage in sexual relationship before marriage.