# KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ON

STIs, HIV AND AIDS

(A Case Study of Selected Secondary School of Jhapa District)

A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Central Department of Population Studies in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts

By Kamal Thapa Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu May, 2008

#### CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF POPULATION STUDIES

# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

#### RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This dissertation work entitled, "Knowledge, Attitude, and Behaviour of Secondary School Students on STIs, HIV and AIDS: A Case Study of Selected Secondary School of Jhapa District by Kamal Thapa, is prepared under my supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master of Arts in Population Studies. To the best my knowledge the study is original. I, Threfore, recommend it for evaluation to the Dissertation Committee.

.....

Keshab Prasad Adhikari

Lecturer

Central Department of Population Studies

Tribhuvan University

Kathmandu, Nepal

# CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF POPULATION STUDIES TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

### KATHMANDU, NEPAL

### **APPROVAL SHEET**

This Dissertation entitled, "Knowledge, Attitude, and Behaviour of Secondary School Students on STIs, HIV and AIDS: A Case Study of Selected Secondary Schools in Jhapa District, by Kamal Thapa has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies.

	Approved by
	Dr. Bal Kumar K.C.
	(Prof. and Head)
	Rabindra Nath Bhattarai
	(External)
	Keshab Prasad Adhikari
	(Supervisor)
Date:	

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This Dissertation entitled "Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour of Secondary School, Students on STIs, HIV and AIDS: A case study of Selected Secondary School in Jhapa District" is prepared for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Arts in Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS), Tribhuvan University (TU). Kirtipur, Kathmandu.

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#### **ABSTRACTS**

Sexuality, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS are still the major challenge for world health in 21st century. It has seen a dramatic view the spread of HIV/AIDS from the initial in the United States, Europe to South Asia. HIV/AIDS has become as well as critical public health issue particularly in Africa facing HIV/AIDS as epidemic. HIV/AIDS is cause of death in Africa and other part of the world wide. Although efforts for its prevention and control have been made and method continuously by United Nations, Governments, WHO, NGOs and INGOs to minimize the spread of HIV. It is still beyond the capacity of medical enrichment and is categorized incurable disease. If proper action is not taken immediately, it might be disastrous.

The selected four Secondary Schools were selected purposively, out of the total sample population (N=200) the percentage of adolescents who have heard of HIV/AIDS is higher than the percentages who have heard of STIs. This study shows that higher the class, higher the knowledge of STIs, HIV/AIDS.

The knowledge of STIs and HIV/AIDS is rich among female adolescents in comparison to the male adolescents. Due to the lack of sufficient knowledge, some of them had misconception about ways of transmission, symptoms and preventive measures of STIs and HIV/AIDS. The percentage of adolescents who had not experience of sexual intercourse is higher.

Lack of significant knowledge of STIs and HIV/AIDS, some of them have negative attitude and behaviour towards these diseases. We should inform and educate them about STIs and HIV/AIDS.

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#### **ACRONYMS**

AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

ARV - AIDS Related Virus

CBS - Central Bureau of Statistics

CDPS - Central Department of Population Studies

CS Ws - Commercial Sex Workers

DHS - Demographic Health Survey

DoH - Department of Health

FSWs - Female Sex Workers

GOs - Government Organization

HIV - Human Immune Deficiency Virus

ICPD - International Conference Population and Development

IDUs - Injecting Drug Users

IEC - Information, Education Communication

ILO - International Labour Organization

INGOs - International Non-Governmental Organization

KABP - Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour and Practice

LAV - Lumpnsidenopathy Associated Virus

MoH - Ministry of Health

NAPC - National AIDS Policy Committee

NCASC - National Center for AIDS and STD Control

NGO - Non-Governmental Organization

NLSS - Nepal Living Standard Survey

OIs - Opportunities Infections

PLWHA - People Living with HIV and AIDS

RH - Reproductive Health

RTI - Reproductive Tract Infection

STDs - Sexually Transmitted Diseases

STIs - Sexually Transmitted Infection

TV - Television

TB - Tuberculosis

UN - United Nations

UNAIDS - Joint United Nations Programme HIV/AIDS

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Emergency Fund

USA - United State of America

VDC - Village Development Committee

WHO - World Health Organization