

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS STDS AND
HIV/AIDS IN DALIT COMMUNITY**

(A Case Study of Aaginchok VDC, Dhading)

By

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Recommendation

This is to certify that **Mr. Khil Prasad Basaula** has worked under my supervision and guidance for the preparation of this dissertation entitled "**Knowledge and Attitude towards STDs and HIV/AIDS in Dalit Community: A Case Study of Aaginchok VDC, Dhading**" has been accepted for the partial fulfillment of Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge the study is original and carries useful information in the field of STDs and HIV/AIDS. I therefore recommend it for the evaluation to the Dissertation Committee.

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Abstract

HIV/AIDS has been threatening the human being since last two decades. It has also killed millions of human being and still the care for it is beyond the capacity of the modern medical science. At first, it is appeared in the United States and dramatically spread to Europe, America, Africa, Australia and Asia that colonized the whole world. STIs and HIV/AIDS have been the crucial public health problem in the world. In Africa, it is the major cause of death. Now a day, it has been rapidly increasing in the developing countries. It has also been great barrier for developing countries. Effort in all the aspects like prevention, counseling, advocacy and care have been made from an sectors like GOs, INGOs and many more international communities such as WHO, UNAIDS, Red – cross and OPEC.

This study on knowledge and attitude of STDs and HIV/AIDS in Dalit Community in Aaginchok VDC, Dhading is carried out on the basic of primary data collected by using purposive random sampling in ward numbers 2 and 3 (Sarkigaun, Kamigaun, Damaigaun and Thamadada).

The main objectives of this study is to assess the knowledge and attitude of STIs and HIV/AIDS in Dalit community. The sample population taken as 105 (57 males and 48 females) respondents from selected households. All of them are Hindus, Damai were 31, Kami, 34 and Sarki, 40. There is no electricity facility at all in the study area.

About 67 percent respondents have heard about STDs and 64 percent have heard about HIV/AIDS. The major source of information about STDs is Radio (79.8 %).

Only about 28 percent respondents said HIV and AIDS are different and nearly 68 percent respondents know about preventive measures of HIV/AIDS. Knowledge about STIs and HIV/AIDS is appreciating, however, they have confusion on symptoms, mode of transmission and preventive measure.

In the part of behaviour on sexuality and condom use, nearly 22 percent male respondents have used condom during intersexual period. The main purpose of contraceptives use is family planning. The high level of education reflects the high knowledge of STIs and HIV/AIDS. The low knowledge about STIs and HIV/AIDS and practices of premarital sex among youth without condom may cause high risk of STIs and HIV/AIDS.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| AIDS | : Acquired Immune deficiency Syndrome |
| AD | : Anno-Domini |
| CBS | : Central Bureau of Statistics |
| CDPS | : Central Department of Population Studies |
| CPRT | : Central for Population Research and Training |
| FP | : Family Planning |
| FPAN | : Family Planning Association of Nepal |
| GOS | : Government Organization |
| HIV | : Human Immune Deficiency Virus |
| ICE | : Information, Education and Communication |
| ICPD | : International Conference on Population and Development |
| IDPS | : Internally Displace Persons |
| IDUS | : Injecting Drug Users |
| IPPA | : International Planned Parenthood Association |
| ILO | : International Labour Organization |
| INGO | : International Non-Government Organization |
| MDG | : Millennium Development Goal |
| MOH | : Ministry of Health |
| NCASC | : National Central for AIDS and STDs Control |
| NDHS | : Nepal Demographic Health Survey |
| NFHS | : Nepal Family Health Survey |
| NGO | : Non-Government Organization |
| RH | : Reproductive Health |
| SLC | : School Leaving Certificate |
| STDs | : Sexually Transmitted Diseases |
| STIs | : Sexually Transmitted Infections |

SWs : Sex Workers
SHP : Sub Health Post
TUCL : Tribhuvan University Central Library
UN : United Nations
USA : United State of America
UNAIDS: United Nations Programs on HIV/AIDS
UNFPA : United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF: United Nations Fund for the Children
VDC : Village Development Committee
WHO : World Health Organization
WBC : White Blood Cell