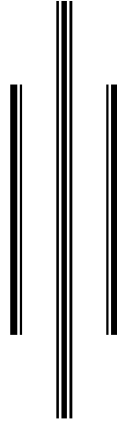
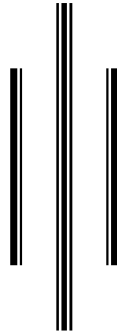


**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE ON STDS AND HIV/AIDS  
AMONG SECONDARY LEVEL SCHOOL STUDENTS :  
A Case Study of Putali Bazar Municipality, Syangja District**



**A Thesis Submitted to**

**The Central Department of Rural Development,  
Faculty of Humanity and Social Sciences, T.U. in Partial  
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of  
Master's of Arts in Rural Development**



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## RECOMMENDATION

I certify that this thesis entitled "**Knowledge and Attitude on STDs and HIV/AIDS Among Secondary Level Schools Student**" (A Case Study of Putali Bazar Municipality, Syangja District) has been carried out by Mr. Umesh Bikram Shah under my supervision. I, hereby recommend this original work for approval in the partial fulfilment of Master Degree of Arts in Rural Development.

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## **APPROVAL SHEET**

This thesis work submitted by Mr. Umesh Bikram Shah entitled "**Knowledge and Attitude on STDs and HIV/AIDS Among Secondary Level Schools Student**" (A Case Study of Putali Bazar Municipality, Syangja District) has been accepted for partial fulfilment of the requirements for Master Degree in Rural Development.

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November 2006

Umesh Bikram Shah

## **ABSTRACT**

The STDs and HIV/AIDS have become major health concerns in Nepal, ever since the first case that was found in 1988 with detection of HIV positive. The number of HIV positive cases has been suggested up to 3312, as the official data (NCASC, Dec. 2003). However, the other sources estimate a much larger number of people infected by HIV alone. Therefore it seemed necessary to have research on to what extent the adolescent students are aware about these diseases.

This study is based on the primary data collection from six secondary schools of rural areas of Syangja district of Western Development Region of Nepal. The major objective of the survey study is to examine the knowledge, attitude on STDs and HIV/AIDS among school adolescents. To meet this objective, 120 respondents are selected from six secondary schools. Among them 67 are boys and 53 are girls, within the age range of 14-20 years.

The knowledge on STDs - HIV/AIDS is found higher on boys than on girls. The background variables such as parent's education, occupation, land holding size, yearly income and mass media facilities have impact on the level of knowledge and attitude. Almost all of the respondents have reported that they have heard about STDs and HIV/AIDS. The adolescents have reported that teachers, textbooks, radios, TV and magazines are the main sources of information on STDs and HIV/AIDS. In every respect related to sexual knowledge, the boys seem more aware than the girls. The main reason behind this may be that the girls do not have opportunity to education and they have to involve in household works. Similarly, unmarried adolescents are more aware on STDs and HIV/AIDS than the married ones.

Hundred percent of the respondents believe that STD is transmitted through sexual contact and 90 percent of the respondents say that using condom is the

true method for preventing AIDS transmission. According to them the safest method of family planning is condom.

The adolescents have reported that though the lessons on HIV/AIDS have been included in the course, the teachers cannot effectively explain the matter and cannot make the students properly knowledge about it. The main reason behind this, according to them, may be the teachers' lack of sufficient knowledge as well as their hesitation to talk on the matter very clearly. All of the respondents have mentioned that they need knowledge about STDs, HIV/AIDS, and sex and family planning methods. The intended age at marriage of 80 percent of adolescents is found to be 25-30 years.

# CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Approval Sheet</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-11</b>
1.1 General Background	1
1.2 Statement of Problem	5
1.3 Objectives of the Study	10
1.4 Limitation of the Study	10
1.5 Significance of the Study	10
<b>CHAPTER - II : REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS STUDIES</b>	<b>12-21</b>
2.1 HIV/AIDS in Global Context	12
2.2 Scenario of the Epidemic in Nepal	17
<b>CHAPTER - III : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>22-25</b>
3.1 Study Area	22
3.2 Research Design	22
3.3 Sources of Data	22
3.4 Sample and Universe	22
3.5 Data Collection Techniques	24
3.5.1 Questionnaire	24
3.5.2 Interview	25
3.6 Data Analysis	25

<b>CHAPTER - IV : CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>26-34</b>
4.1 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents	26
4.1.1 Age of the Respondents	26
4.1.2 Types of the Family	27
4.1.3 Marital Status of the Respondents	28
4.2 Socio-Cultural Characteristics of the Respondents	29
4.2.1 Living Arrangement of the Respondents	29
4.2.2 Caste/Ethnicity of the Respondents	30
4.2.3 Educational Status of the Father of the Respondents	31
4.2.4 Educational Background of Mother	31
4.3 Economic Characteristics of the Respondents	32
4.3.1 Occupation of Mother	32
4.3.1 Occupation of the Father	33
4.3.3 Economic Condition of the Family	33
<b>CHAPTER - V: KNOWLEDGE ON HIV/AIDS AND STDs</b>	<b>35-56</b>
5.1 Students Knowledge and Attitudes on HIV/AIDS	35
5.1.1 Sources of Information of HIV/AIDS for the First Time	35
5.1.2 Mode of Transmission of HIV/AIDS	36
5.1.3 Students Opinion on Parent-Children Conservation on HIV/AIDS	37
5.1.4 Difference between HIV and HIV/AIDS	39
5.1.5 Most Effective Means to Generate Awareness	40
5.1.6 Prevention from HIV/AIDS	41
5.1.7 Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS	42
5.1.8 If Suffered from HIV/AIDS	43
5.2 Students Knowledge and Attitude on STDs	44
5.2.1 Heard of STDs	44



5.2.2	Most Common STDs	44
5.2.3	Source of Information	45
5.2.4	Mode of Transmission of STDs	46
5.2.5	Prevention from STDs	47
5.2.6	Infection from STDs	48
5.2.7	Relationship between STDs and HIV/AIDS	50
5.2.8	Sexual Relationship of the Respondents	51
5.3	Student's Attitude towards Curriculum	53
5.3.1	Inclusion of STDs and HIV/AIDS on Curriculum	53
5.3.2	Sufficiency of the Curriculum	53
5.3.3	Student's Satisfaction on Teacher's Teaching	54
5.3.4	Students' View on Revision of Curriculum	56

## **CHAPTER - VI: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**57-61**

6.1	Summary	57
6.2	Conclusions	59
6.3	Recommendations	60

### **REFERENCES**

### **APPENDIX**

## LIST OF TABLES

		<b>Page</b>
Table 1.1	Cumulative HIV/AIDS Situation in Nepal as of February 28, 2005	3
Table 1.2	Year-Wise Detection of HIV Positive in Nepal (1988-2002)	7
Table 2.1	Scenario of HIV/AIDS in Nepal Cumulative HIV/AIDS Situation in Nepal as of February 28, 2005	18
Table 3.1	Name of Schools and number of Students under Study	24
Table 4.1	Age of the Respondents	26
Table 4.2	Types of Family of the Respondents	27
Table 4.3	Number of Family Members of the Respondents	28
Table 4.4	Marital Status of the Respondents	28
Table 4.5	Living Arrangement of the Respondents	29
Table 4.6	Caste/Ethnicity of the Respondents	30
Table 4.7	Educational Status of Father	31
Table 4.8	Educational Status of Mother	32
Table 4.9	Occupation of Respondent's Mother	32
Table 4.10	Economic Condition of Respondents family	34
Table 5.1	Sources of Information on HIV/AIDS	36
Table 5.2	Mode of Transmission of HIV/AIDS	37
Table 5.3	Students Opinion on Parent-Child Conversation on HIV/AIDS	38
Table 5.4	Reasons for Lack of Conversation on HIV/AIDS	39
Table 5.5	Knowledge on Difference between HIV and HIV/AIDS	40
Table 5.6	Most Effective Means to Generate Awareness	41
Table 5.7	Preventive Measures of HIV/AIDS	42
Table 5.8	Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS	42
Table 5.9	Students Reaction to HIV/AIDS	43
Table 5.10	Most Common STDs	45
Table 5.11	Source of Information about STDs for the First Time	45

Table 5.12	Mode of Transmission of STDs	47
Table 5.13	Preventive Measures of STDs	48
Table 5.14	Number of students infected by STDs	49
Table 5.15	Student's reaction after being infected by STDs	50
Table 5.16	Knowledge on Relationship between STDs and HIV/AIDS	51
Table 5.17	Sexual Relationships of the Respondents	52
Table 5.18	Age at First Sex	52
Table 5.19	Sufficiency of School Curriculum on STDs and HIV/AIDS	54
Table 5.20	Reasons for Teacher's Hesitation on giving Full Information to Students	55

## LIST OF FIGURES

		<b>Page</b>
Fig. 4.1	Living Arrangement of the Respondents	30
Fig. 4.2	Occupation of the Respondent's father	33
Fig. 5.1	Students and Parents Conversation on HIV/AIDS	38
Fig. 5.2	First Source of Information on STDs	46
Fig.5.3	Number of Students Infected by STDs	49
Fig 5.4	Knowledge on Relationship between STDs and HIV/AIDS	50
Fig. 5.5	Student's Attitude towards Teacher's Teaching	54
Fig. 5.6	Students' view on Revision of School Curriculum	56

## ACRONYMS

AIDS	:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CDPS	:	Central Department of Population Studies
FSW	:	Female Sex Worker
HIV	:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMG	:	His Majesty's Government
ICPD	:	International Conference of Population and Development
IDU	:	Injecting Drug User
IEC	:	Information Education Commutation
INGO	:	International Non-Governmental Organization
KABP	:	Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour and Practice
MOH	:	Ministry of Health
NCASC	:	National Centre of AIDS and STD Control
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organization
STD	:	Sexual Transmitted Disease
STI	:	Sexually Transmitted Infection
UN	:	United Nation
UNAIDS	:	Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS
UNESCO	:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	:	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	:	United Nation Children Fund
USAID	:	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	:	World Health Organization