



Survey on Sexuality

Social Issues among Teenagers

Kenton High School, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam



Background:

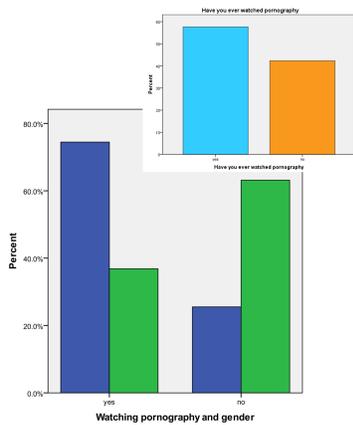
On August 29, 1982, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, Chairman of CCM speaking in Zanzibar to the Parents' Association of Tanzania, made an appeal for change in the rearing of the nation's young people. What he said was to affect the thinking about educational planning-indeed, to affect planning for the future of the nation itself.

He asked the Party and Parents Association to accept the challenge of educating the country about the consequences of uncontrolled population growth. Not only was the health of mothers at risk, he warned, but also the future of their children.

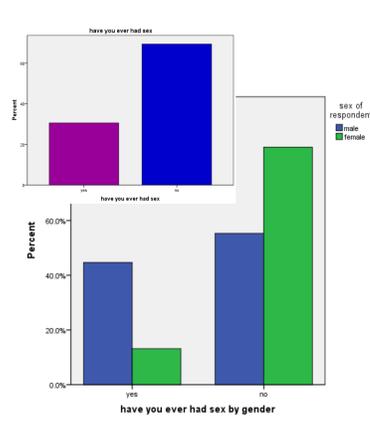
Aim:

To understand the attitude of our peers to sexuality we carried out an anonymous survey among our classes with questions ranging from contraception to pornography

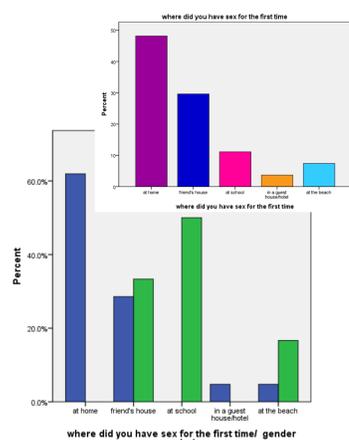
A sample of the survey results:



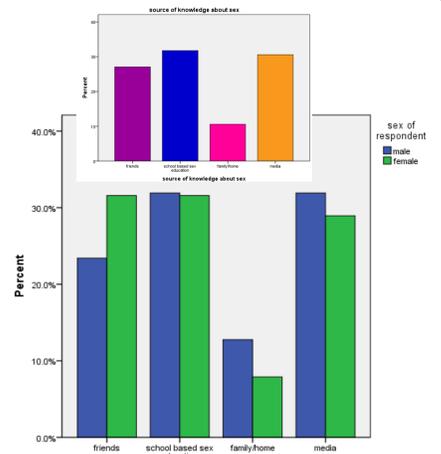
The percentage of people who have watched pornography indicates that we have a truthful survey result. The 73% of males is in line with global results



These answers are again as expected with the majority 'no'. Those who are sexually active consist of 43% boys



Analysing the replies by % indicates the majority of activity takes place at home. However the majority of boys are active at home compared to the majority of girls at school.



The source of knowledge comes from outside the home indicating sex is still a taboo topic for parents and young people

Other important questions raised during discussion:

1. Male gender socialisation – economic autonomy and marriage
2. Position of girls and women in Tanzania – boys have more freedom?
3. Sexual education & sexual health
 1. Despite the serious HIV/AIDS situation and the many education campaigns, many parents still avoid talking to their children in-depth about sex and sexuality.
4. Gender relations – economic power and rape

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Conclusions:

- We carried out a survey of 70 pupils with 50 replies
 - The base questions indicate a reliable survey
 - For boys the majority of activity takes place at home worryingly no girls had sex at home, with the majority of activity taking place at school
- This indicates serious questions about the behaviour of women at home
- The source of knowledge also indicates that the family home is not fulfilling the role of primary educator

References:

1. *Sexual Health Exchange 2002-4*, Changing gender roles in Tanzania by Joseph Mzinga

Acknowledgements:

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