ATTITUDE OF UNIFORM MEN TOWARDS SEXUAL RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR ON THE NATIONAL BORDER IN OGUN STATE

By Oke, Tunde Dayo, Ph.D &

Kpanja Kashim Lagu, Ph.D
Department of Educational Foundations,
Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State

Abstract

This study examined the attitude of uniformed men towards sexual risk taking behaviour on the national border in Ogun State. In carrying out the study, six null hypotheses were formulated to give direction. The design of the study was descriptive survey. The sample consisted of 250 uniformed men randomly selected from three locations at the national border in Ogun State. The instrument used for data collection was a self- developed questionnaire. The data collected were analysed statistically and the formulated hypotheses were tested one by one using t-test, correlation, and chi square techniques. All the results of findings were held significant at 0.05 alpha levels. The results of the analyses showed that: there is a significant difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour between uniformed men separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not (t=11.71; df=248; P=0.00<0.05); there is no significant difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking behaviour between commissioned and non- commissioned uniformed men (t=-0.51; df=248; P=0.11>0.05); there is a significant relationship between the knowledge and awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men $(r = .5682^{**}; p < .05)$; there is a significant influence of religion on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men. ($X^2 = 9.14$; df = 2; P = 0.00 < 0.05) and there is a significant influence of peer group on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men ($X^2 = 16.56$; df = 1; P = 0.00 < 0.05). Based on these results, it was recommended among others that various agencies responsible for the posting of the uniformed men should take into consideration the family and marital status before posting to any location. If possible the family should be relocated to the location of posting with adequate welfare package so as to ensure that the uniformed men are not separated from their accustomed environment. Also, rigorous awareness campaign and workshop should be periodically organised for the uniformed men on attitude change towards sexual risk taking while emphasis on positive attitude and healthy sexual behaviour should be promoted.

Key words: Attitude, sexual risk taking, sexual behaviour, uniform men

Background to the Study

The issue of sexual behaviour among all and sundry in recent years in the world is a phenomenon that deserves focused attention especially, in sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, risky behaviours contribute greatly to poor sexual health outcomes. Sub-Saharan Africa continues to record the greatest number of HIV infections and deaths worldwide, especially, amongst the uniform men who are vulnerable due largely to their nature of work. Many studies have shown that not only do uniform men use substances such as alcohol ,tobacco and other drugs, but they also engage in high levels of unprotected sex sexual activity (Flisher, Reddy, Muller and Lombard 2013; Kaaya, 2012; Panday, Reddy and Bergstrom, 2017). Available data indicate that sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are increasing in many countries. Changes in the epidemiology of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are among other factors suggested to be driven by changes in sexual behaviour patterns. This is supported by trends towards

larger numbers of sexual partners, concurrent partnerships, proportions of people engaging in sexual intercourse and inconsistent condom use with new partners.

In their study, Simbayi and Shisana (2013) identified a similar trend towards earlier sexual debut amongst younger respondents, where the median age at first sex for respondents aged 15-24 year was found to be 16 years. They noted, in particular, that sexually active boys uniformly typically engage in sexual activity at a much earlier age than their female counterparts.

Several studies have investigated the impact of gender on sexual behaviour and the consensus seems to be that gender does affect sexual behaviour. Many studies have shown that people who live in urban areas have more knowledge about HIV/AIDS prevention, more likely to practice condom use than rural residents, while the chances of having more than one regular sexual partner and sexually transmitted diseases are higher in urban than in rural areas (Ntozi, Ahimbisibwe, Ayiga, Odwee, and Mulindwa, 2010; Peltzer 2013). Karim, Magnani, Morgan, and Bond (2013) found that residence in a rural setting was associated with an increased probability of having had sex among males, while females residing in small towns were significantly more likely than their counterparts residing in cities or large towns to have had multiple recent partners. But, in a study by Kwankye (2015), he found that the proportion of participants that was sexually active was higher in the rural area than the urban district and also increased with age. Living arrangements of adolescents have been found to impact their sexual behaviour. For example, Kirby (2009) found that living in a non-traditional family structure (i.e. families with parents who are divorced, separated, or were never married) serves as a risk factor for initiation of sex. Other determinants of sexual health and morbidity are socio-demographic factors and risky lifestyle factors that co-occur with risky sexual behaviour. The dynamics in STI incidences continue to create demands for updated general population estimates of variables such as rates of partner acquisition and contact with high risk groups for STIs as e.g. sex workers. In another study of the timing of first sexual intercourse by Upchurch (2009), they found that those living in a traditional family structure (i.e. families with both biological parents) reported later median age of first intercourse than youth living in any other family situation, including step families with two parents in the home. In a study, McGrath (2009) found that the hazard of first sex was statistically significantly higher for women and men whose mother or father had died, while on the other hand they found that the hazard of first sex was statistically significantly lower for women whose mother or father was a co-member of the same household. Widespread poverty tends to weaken moral values that moderate sexual behaviour, especially among adolescents. In particular, female adolescents tend to contend with the allurement of financial gratification and sexual overtures by relatively richer peers and adults (Isiugo-Abanihe 2013). Thus, household income is a factor that affects sexual behaviour. In their studies, Kinsman (2008) and Whitaker (2010) found no significant relationship between sexual activity and parents' per capita income, while Lammers (2010) found that higher socioeconomic status negatively correlated with sexual activity across all age groups and genders. In the United States, there appears to be consensus in the literature that substance use and sexual intercourse tend to co-occur and among the sexual risk behaviours. Moreover, substance use is linked to higher numbers of sexual partners and less consistent condom use (Lowry, Holtzman, Truman, 2004; Tapert, Aarons, Sedlar, 2011). Flisher (2006) found that having ever had sex was associated with use of various substances, however, substance use was not associated with the failure to use a condom (Flisher and Chalton 2011). Also, Simbayi, Mwaba, and Kalichman (2016) have observed that alcohol intake among the military is a major cause of concern and has been linked to other risk behaviours including unsafe sex, teenage pregnancy, dropping out of school and delinquent or criminal behaviour. In a study of the uniform personnel in South Africa, Palen (2016) found that during most recent sexual encounter, 39% of the them reported using alcohol or marijuana. Among those who used these substances, 23% reported that substances influenced their decision to have sex, and 26% reported using substances in order to feel more comfortable with their partner; those who had ever used alcohol or marijuana in their lifetime were significantly more likely to have ever had sexual intercourse. Several studies have documented the association between religion and behaviour in general and antisocial behaviour, in particular (Garner 2010; Odimegwu 2015). As far as sexual behaviour is concerned, Garner (2010) and Odimegwu (2015) have both observed a relationship between religion and sexual attitudes. McMillen, Helm and McBridge (2011:196) found that "the religious group to which people identify appears to be substantially correlated with how they evaluate the appropriateness of sexual behaviour and with the sexual mores they choose to follow in their own lives including first sexual intercourse and less permissive attitudes about sex". Several scholars have observed that people who attached importance to religion were significantly more aware of the dangers of HIV/AIDS than their non-religious counterparts, they are more likely to delay sexual involvement than those with lower levels of religiosity (e.g. Hardy and Raffaelli 2013; Shisana and Simbayi 2013; Rostosky, Regnerus, and Comer Wright 2013).

Statement of the Problem

Inappropriate sex is risky, but sexual risk taking is twice as dangerous. Sexual risk is delicate because the urge of the moment can lead to the sorrow of a life time. One night of sex will not look so great for an AIDS victim when dying of AIDS. It does seem that no doubt one can feign ignorance of the seeming problem of having multiple sex partners with high level of sexual activities and sex drive among uniform men and the way they behave towards dating with partners. The focus of the problem is the way the uniform men at borders flaunt their wealth, use their positions and engage in sex with whoever comes their way, has led to public outcry by the entire society (Adejuwon, 2009).

Sexual risk taking brings insatiability and compulsiveness and the desire to continue to date and have sexual intercourse on the part of the uniform men at various borders. If the uniform is constructive and positive in his sexual behaviour, he will exhibit great decency and good moral, but when it is negative, indiscriminate and callous, the whole society will be faced with a chaotic situation. Sexual permisssiveness is a problem because it may act as a hindrance to effective prevention of the influx of unauthorized goods and services into the nations which is the primary assignment for being at the border, he may no longer have time for his work, it will lead to lack of concentration at their duty post when he may have exhausted himself in a bid to satisfy numerous partners (Filani, 2014).

It may also create negative dating behaviour, in that the partner may break the rules of dating which will lead to unprotected sex which may lead to unwanted pregnancies, illegal abortion, child-abandonment dropping out of the school to take care of the unwanted baby. Furthermore, this will encourage wrong dating, choosing a wrong partner, which will relegate the essence of courtship that will in turn lead to problematic marriages. It is also a problem because it brings harm to everybody involved, the participants, the families the communities of sexually transmitted diseases such as Gonorrhoea, syphilis, candidiasis herps and AIDS.

Certain factors which can contribute to sexual permissiveness and wrong behaviour could be traced to the environment with which the uniform personnel work especially at borders. They don't have permanent accommodation and one temporarily separated from their families. And naturally, there is temptation to satisfy sexual urge especially with commercial sex workers or smugglers in a bid to release their smuggled goods.

Also, the country's economic recession, parents, retrenchment from work, societal expectation, the level of individual morality and discipline are among the reasons why the uniform men engage in sexual risk taking because they are able to meet the financial needs of these partners from the proceeds of bribes which they collect from the business men and woman in their stations. The pressure from fellow personnel and the need to have the sense of belongingness could also be determining factor why the uniform men at the borders engage in seasonal risk taking.

Generally, sexual intercourse is seen as appropriate when it is done at the right time with the right partner. However, when it is carried out indiscriminately, there is the question of health and its attendant medical and psychological risks and consequences that can reduce one's survival. It is capable of leading to high incidence of sexually related problems, chronic diseases, unwanted pregnancies and illegal abortion, child abandonment and dropping out of school or even death.

Purpose of Study

The overall objective of this study is to examine the sexual risk taking behaviour among the uniform men at the national border in Ogun State and specifically:

To examine if there is any difference in attitude to sexual risk taking among commission and non-commissioned uniform men.

To highlight the knowledge and awareness of the effect of sexual risk taking behaviour among uniform men.

To determine the role of religion, peers influence and environment on sexual risk taking behaviour among uniform men.

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses are postulated and tested in the study

There is no significant difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour between uniform men separated from their families and environment and those who are not.

There is no significant difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking between commissioned and non -commissioned uniform men.

There is no significant relationship between the knowledge and awareness of the sexual risk taking on sexual behaviour of uniform men.

Sexual risk taking behaviour among uniform men is independent of their religion.

There is no significant influence of peer group on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniform men.

Methodology

Research Design: The design for this study is basically survey descriptive. A descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypotheses or answer research questions concerning the current status of the subject of study. The design is descriptive because it is an attempt to discover relationship

that exists between non-manipulated variable which describes the present. Hence, it is considered as the suitable tool for analysing data. Thus, the data analysis from the sample was used to give description of what to expect from the much larger group of uniform men. Also, the variables involved have been found to exist within the respondents, hence, these variable are not manipulated. While sexual risk-taking is considered to be the independent variables, the behaviour of the uniform personnel is the dependent variable of interest.

Population of Study: The target population for this study consisted of all uniform men posted and serving at the national border in Ogun state.

Sample and Sampling Procedure: The sample of this study comprised of two hundred and fifty (250) uniform men in three locations at the national border in Ogun State. This consisted of 90 customs, 60 immigration, 45 police, 45 soldier, and 10 NDLEA personnel The researcher used both proportional simple and stratified random sampling techniques to ensure adequate and accurate representation of data which were generalizable on the population. Proportional in the sense that all the uniform men are not of equal number, the selection is done based on the size of each segment of the respective uniform personnel. The sampling was done in such a way that both commissioned and non- commissioned officers of differing age, religion, qualification, location and ethnicity are represented in the sample. The comprehensive record of list of the personnel at the national border was obtained from the command. Through this list, the researcher divided the personnel in to various strata of interest. Consequently simple random sampling using hat and draw method was used to select the sample proportionate with each stratum. Later, all the subjects in all the strata were pulled together to form the sample.

Instrumentation: The major instrument used in carrying out this study was questionnaire constructed by the researcher divided into two sections A and B. Section A sought for demographic characteristics of the uniform men while section B has 30 item which was patterned along 4 point Likert scale ranging from strongly agree (SA) to strongly disagree (SD). Items 1 to 8 measured sexual risk taking, 9 to 18 centred on sexual behaviour, 19 to 24 sought information on awareness and knowledge of the effect of sexual risk taking while items 25 to 30 measured peer group influence. To determine the validity of the instrument, it was given to two senior colleagues who are on sabbatical appointment from University of Abuja and Benue State University respectively to look at the relevance, accuracy, clarity and whether the items measured what it purported to measure. The modifications and suggestions made were used to arrive at the final copy of the instrument. The logical validity of the two experts yielded 0.87. to this end, the instrument was said to have content and face validity. To find the reliability, the instrument was pilot tested on twenty uniform men at national border in Lagos State and Cronbach alpha of 0.81 resulted as index of internal consistency. Consequently, the instrument was adjudged to be reliable and usable for the study.

To complement the self-constructed questionnaire used for data collection, Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was also carried out. The FGD comprised of ten (10) personnel in each group with a tape recorder and a facilitator, an observer and a secondary back up (note taking) in attendance to record the proceeding which was coded for data analysis.

Results

Hypothesis One: There is no significant difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour between uniformed men separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not. The researcher used independent t- test statistics to test this hypothesis. The result of the analysis is as presented in table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Comparison of sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men who are separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not

| Uniformed men | N | Mean | Std. Dev. | Df | T | P |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|-----------|-----|--------|------|
| Separated from accustomed environment | 186 | 26.52 | 6.81 | 248 | 11.71* | 0.00 |
| Not separated from accustomed | 64 | 14.81 | 7.08 | | | |
| environment | | | | | | |

^{*}P < 0.05

Table 4.1 reveals that the value of t (11.71) resulted as difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour of the uniformed men. This result is significant (t=11.71; df=248; P=0.00<0.05), therefore, the null hypothesis is discarded while the alternate hypothesis is retained that there is a significant difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour between uniformed men separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not. This indicates that the sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men who are separated from their accustomed environment is high compared to those who are not.

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking behaviour between commissioned and non-commissioned uniformed men. To test this hypothesis, the researcher adopted for data analysis independent t- test statistics. The result of the analysis is as presented in table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Comparison of sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men who are separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not

| Uniformed men | N | Mean | Std. Dev. | Df | T | P |
|--------------------------|-----|-------|-----------|-----|-------|------|
| Commissioned Officer | 81 | 24.68 | 7.76 | 248 | -0.51 | 0.11 |
| Non Commissioned Officer | 169 | 25.19 | 6.89 | | | |

^{*}P < 0.05

Table 4.2 reveals that the value of t (-0.51) resulted as difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking behaviour of the uniformed men. This result is not significant (t=-0.51; df=248; P=0.11>0.05), therefore, the null hypothesis is accepted while the alternate hypothesis is rejected that there is no significant difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking behaviour between commissioned and non- commissioned uniformed men. This suggests that the attitude of uniformed men towards sexual risk taking behaviour is the same.

Hypothesis Three: There is no significant relationship between the knowledge and awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men. In testing this hypothesis, the researcher employed for data analysis Pearson Product Moment correlation coefficient statistical method. The result of the analysis is as presented in table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Relationship between knowledge/awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men.

| Variables | N | Mean | SD | Df | R | P |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|------|-----|---------|------|
| Knowledge/Awareness | 250 | 24.89 | 6.08 | 248 | .5682** | .000 |
| of Sexual Risk Taking | | | | | | |
| Sexual Behaviour | 250 | 28.73 | 6.88 | | | |

Results in table 4.3 revealed significant positive relationship between knowledge/awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men ($r = .5682^{**}$; p < .05). This means that knowledge/awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men is positively related. Moreover, the $R^2 = .465$ suggesting knowledge/awareness of sexual risk taking accounted for 46.5 percent of the variance in sexual behaviour consequently, the null hypothesis is hereby rejected while the alternate hypothesis is upheld that there is a significant relationship between the knowledge and awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men.

Hypothesis Four: Sexual risk taking behaviour among uniformed men is independent of their religion. In testing this hypothesis, the researcher employed for data analysis chi square statistical tool. The result of the analysis is as presented in table 4.4.

Table 4.4: Influence of Religion on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men.

| Sexual | Risk | Religion | | | Total | π^2 |
|--------|------|--------------|-----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Taking | | Christianity | Islam | Others | | |
| High | | 51 (62.5) | 69 (57.0) | 4 (4.5) | 124 | 9.14 |
| Low | | 75 (63.5) | 46 (58.0) | 5 (4.5) | 126 | |
| Total | | 126 | 115 | 9 | 250 | |

An examination of results in table 4.4 revealed that there is a significant influence of religion on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men. ($X^2=9.14$; df=2; P=0.00<0.05). This implies that uniformed men who are Muslims tend to take more risk with regards to sexual behaviour than the other uniformed men of who are Christians or those of other religion. Apparently, this null hypothesis is discarded while upholding the alternate hypothesis.

Hypothesis Five: There is no significant influence of peer group on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men. In testing this hypothesis, the researcher used for data analysis chi square statistical technique. The result of the analysis is as presented in table 4.5.

Table 4.5: Influence of Peer Group on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men.

| Peer Group | Sexual Risk T | Taking | Total | π^2 |
|------------|---------------|-----------|-------|---------|
| Influence | High | Low | | |
| High | 142 (129.4) | 54 (66.6) | 196 | 16.56 |
| Low | 723 (35.6) | 31 (18.4) | 54 | |
| Total | 165 | 85 | 250 | |

An examination of results in table 4.5 showed that there is a significant influence of peer group on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men ($X^2 = 16.56$; df = 1; P = 0.00 < 0.05). This implies that International Journal of Educational Research Vol. 6, No 2, 2019

uniformed men with high peer group influence had propensity to take higher sexual risk than those with low peer group influence. Invariably, this null hypothesis is rejected while the alternate hypothesis is retained.

Discussion of Findings

The findings on hypothesis one revealed that there is a significant difference in the sexual risk taking behaviour between uniformed men separated from their accustomed environment and those who are not. This indicates that the sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men who are separated from their accustomed environment is high compared to those who are not.

This finding is plausible because uniformed men are usually transferred from one place to another without consideration for their family. Most often when they are posted, they stay in their place of new posting alone. The new environment they found themselves is strange as they are not accustomed to the environment. Consequently, in other to adjust, they start thinking of friendship and intimacy the resultant effect of which is sexual risk taking. This result corroborates the findings of Metzler et al., (2014) that living with one's spouse and or family serves a protective role, other findings suggest that living in the accustomed environment can further protect individuals from engaging in SRB. According to a study by Klavs (2015) the main factor associated with early sexual risk taking was not living with the family. Devine (2013) found that parental separation a significant predictor of sexual risk behaviour. However, a study by Langille (2013) found no significant associations between the family separation and sexual risk behaviours.

The findings of second hypothesis revealed that there is no significant difference in the attitude towards sexual risk taking behaviour between commissioned and non- commissioned uniformed men. This suggests that the attitude of uniformed men towards sexual risk taking behaviour is the same. This result is surprising because one would have expected that the commissioned officers should exhibit negative attitude towards sexual risk taking because of their level of sophistication in terms of education, exposure, status and experience. Meanwhile, the result can be explained from the perspective of the fact that all uniformed men irrespective of their class and status act and behave in the same manner when it comes to the issue of sexual sensation. This result negates the finding of Adejuwon (2010) that those with high level of education tend to be more careful with sexual risk taking unlike those with no or little education. The implication of this is that before any uniformed man can be commissioned as officer, he must have attained certain level of education.

The result of third hypothesis showed that there is a significant relationship between the knowledge and awareness of the sexual risk taking and sexual behaviour of uniformed men. This result is in line with the findings and assertions of several authorities that knowledge of sexual risk taking is a significant potent factor on sexual behaviour (Lowry, Holtzman, Truman, et al. 2014; Tapert, Aarons, Sedlar et al. 2011). This finding can be explained from the perspective of the fact that the knowledge of sexual risk taking will enable the uniformed men to have high awareness of the associated effects of their behaviour. To this effect therefore, their sexual behaviour will be controlled to acceptable societal expectation. However, it is worrisome that the uniformed men despite the fact that they are sufficiently knowledgeable in the areas of sexual risk taking with high level of awareness, yet they still engage in unwholesome sexual behaviour considerably without regard to the consequences of the behaviour.

The result of data analysis of hypothesis four revealed that there is a significant influence of religion on sexual risk taking behaviour of uniformed men. This result confirms the view of Meyer (2013) that religion of an individual plays a key role in sexual behaviour. Similarly, Morano (2008) was of the opinion that sexual attitude, sexual risk taking and expression of sexual behaviour are influenced by religious affiliations, inclinations and attachment. Several studies have documented the association between religion and behaviour in general and antisocial behaviour, in particular (Garner 2010; Odimegwu 2015). As far as sexual behaviour is concerned, Garner (2010) and Odimegwu (2015) have both observed a relationship between religion and sexual attitudes. Mcmillen et al. (2011) found that "the religious group to which people identify appears to be substantially correlated with how they evaluate the appropriateness of premarital sexual behaviour and with the sexual mores they choose to follow in their own lives including first sexual intercourse and less permissive attitudes about premarital sex". Several scholars have observed that adolescents who attached importance to religion were significantly more aware of the dangers of HIV/AIDS than their non-religious counterparts, they are more likely to delay sexual involvement than those with lower levels of religiosity (Hardy and Raffaelli 2013; Shisana and Simbayi 2013; Rostosky et al. 2013).

The plausible reason why this result is so is perhaps because islam as a religion somehow is permissive most especially when it is said that a man can marry up to four wives at a time. It is on this note that many followers of this religion tend to hide under this injunction to carry out their risky sexual behaviour. On the other hand, the Christians somehow tend to uphold the tenant of one man one wife in theory though likely to do otherwise secretly.

The result of hypothesis five indicated that the influence of peer group significantly influenced sexual risk taking of uniformed men. This result is in agreement with Miller et al., (2010) that peers' behaviours and attitudes are related to sexual risk behaviour – especially those whose peers are sexually active are more likely to be sexually active themselves. Moreover, signs of SRB among peer groups (e.g. pregnancy, inconsistent condom use) were related to increased sexual risk (Gillmore et al., 2017). In a more subjectively way, military perception of their peers' behaviours was related to sexual risk-taking. Brown (2012) found that consistent condom use was associated with the perception of consistent condom use among friends and peers. It was repeatedly found that involvement with deviant peer groups (e.g. using alcohol and drug use or being delinquent) was related to the participation in high risk sexual practices (Metzler et al., 2014; Miller et al., 2010). In addition, a study by Scaramella (2008) showed that deviant peer affiliations comprised a strong pathway to sexual risk in the overall model of sexual risk behaviour. Peers during adolescence are the preferential sources of information about sexuality. Therefore, their behaviour may serve as reference norm for others with high potential of impact (Potard et al., 2008). The perception of their peers on the subject of sexual behaviours is an important normative predictor of intention (Hollander, 2011) with regard to the beginning of sexual relations and engaging in sexuality (Prinstein et al., 2013; Sieving et al., 2016), including oral sex (HalpernFelsher et al., 2016).

Conclusion

The findings of this study led to the conclusion that separation from accustomed environment, knowledge/awareness of sexual risk, peer group influence and religion are strong determinants of sexual risk taking and sexual behaviours among uniformed men.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are proffered based on the findings of this study;

Many sexual risk taking behaviours should be identified and documented in form of printing on the leaflet or pamphlet as well as associated dangers inherent in such behaviour to be circulated to all serving uniformed men. Similarly, mass media should also be involved in this campaign in form of jingles and advertisements.

Religious organisations and leaders should try to preach and live by practical examples a healthy sexual relationship and emphasise the spiritual punishment of sexual laxity among their followers

Cognitive therapy should be used to counsel the uniformed men not to follow the multitude in doing evil. Peer influence on sexual risk taking behaviour should be strongly discouraged

Poverty alleviation programmes of different categories should be introduced to lessen the economic hardship of many people that tend to promote sexual risk taking

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