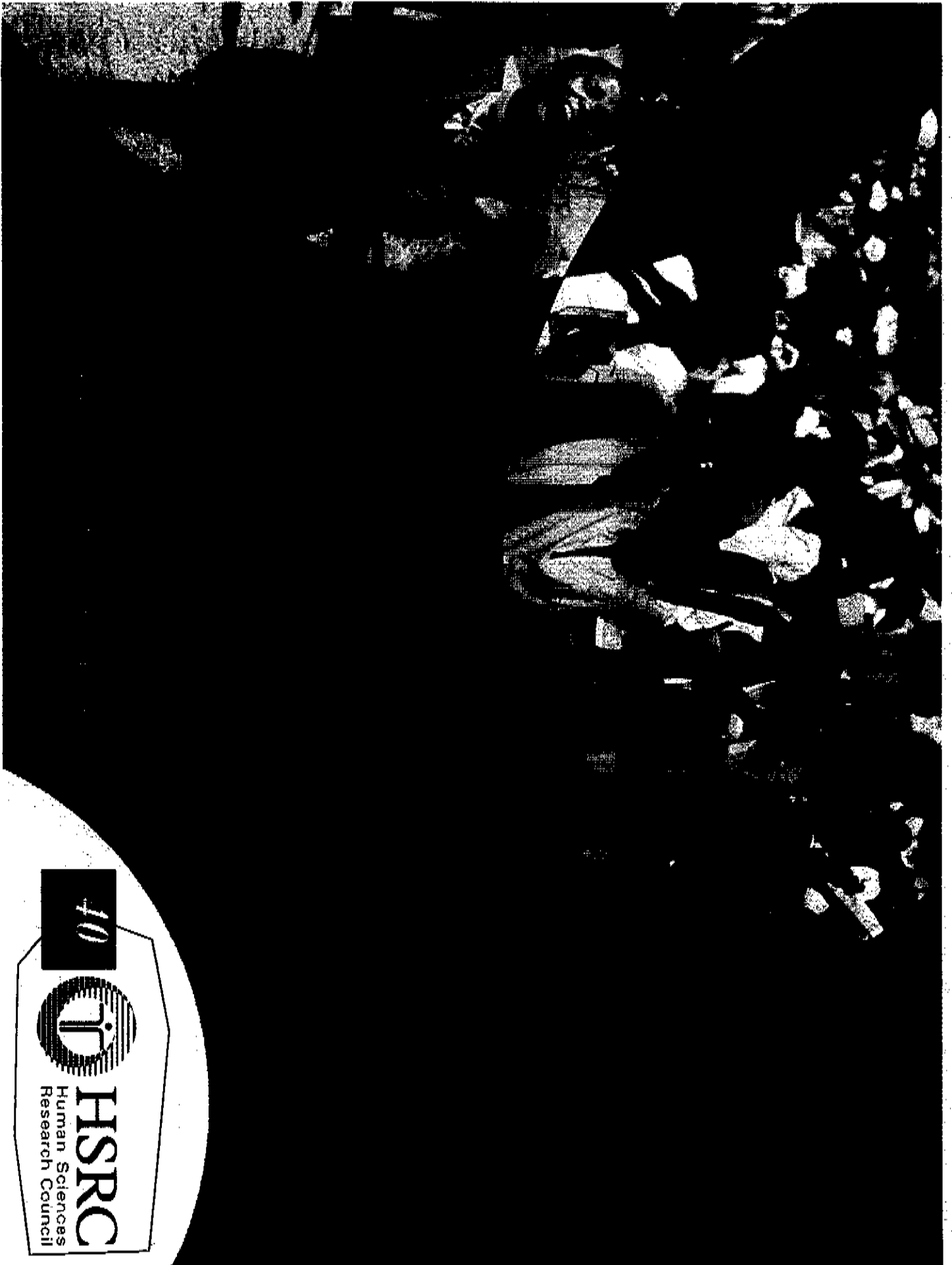


5500



UTS

In this presentation

- Key objectives of the study
- Background of the study
- Study population
- Selection of participants
- Research Methodology
- Focus Group Guides
- Procedure
- Quality control and Ethical Considerations
- Current status of study

Key objectives of the study

- To identify and understand the social values and cultural norms that influence sexual behaviour in various settings or situations
- To determine the acceptability of male circumcision
- To understand the decision-making processes of teenagers in sexual risk taking
- To determine HIV risk perception

Background

- A large national study consisting of 51 focus groups among adolescents and adults in all nine provinces was recently undertaken by the HSRC.
- The study seeks to help us understand the social contexts that promote or inhibit safe sex practices.
- The focus group study is investigating social values and norms influencing sexual practices such as:

Background (continued)

- Apart from further informing the development of additional questions in the 2008 survey mentioned below, a full qualitative report will be produced by the end of the year.
- The analysis of the data collected and the write-up of the report is about to commence

Study Population

- 51 focus groups each consisting of between 8 and 12 people was obtained using convenience sampling
- Approximately 408 participants were involved in the study
- 9 issues were investigated in various combinations in each target group
- And in order to ensure diversity participants were selected from as many provinces as well as specific target groups as possible.

Two examples of the breakdown of the composition of 51 focus groups conducted in all 9 provinces:

Province	FG#	Target Group	Issue	Facilitator & co-facilitator
WC	1	Adult & youth - both genders	Teenage pregnancy & Multiple sexual partnerships	Alicia & Sinawe
WC	2	Adult women	Sleeping around and Male circumcision	Serumula & Redwaan
WC	3	Male teenagers	Informal settlements & child sexual abuse & teen pregnancy	Serumula & Redwaan
WC	4	Male teenagers	Sexual debut & Teenage pregnancy	Sinawe & Alicia
WC	5	Urban WSW	Sexual practices & Sugar mummies	Redwaan & Serumula
WC	6	Rural MSM	Sexual practices & Sugar daddies	Alicia & Sinawe
WC	7	Adult women	Child sexual abuse & sexual abuse	Alicia & Sinawe
EC	1	Young women	Sugar Daddies, Male circumcision & Multiple partnerships	Xoliswa & Feziwe
EC	2	Adult women	Informal settlements & child sexual abuse & teen pregnancy	Feziwe & Mawande
EC	3	Male teenagers	Sexual practices & Sugar mummies	Mawande & Xoliswa
EC	4	Females teenagers	Sexual practices & Sugar daddies	Kulukazi & Zamikhaya
EC	5	Male teenagers	Male circumcision & sugar daddies	Zamikhaya & Sigqibo

Selection of participants

- Participants with the assistance of gate-keepers were chosen from various community and institutional settings
- Gate keepers were people usually authorities and/or guardians through which researchers first sought permission before they interacted directly with the actual participants in a study
- Depending on the province, region, location, and target population, involved these gate keepers were and included people ranging from the police, the village chief, village elders, municipality councilors, NGO workers, members of community-based organizations (CBOs), youth societies, and others

Selection of participants (Contd)

- The chosen participants were then approached by members of the research team to asked whether they are interested in participating in the study.
- The venues for these focus groups will include schools, clinics, community centres, recreation halls, and other venues provided that we are given permission to use them and other venues that are available
- Participants were selected within a radius of 20 kilometers in communities where the focus groups were conducted. No cost was incurred by participants for their participation in the focus groups however refreshment such as cold drinks and biscuits was provided.

Research Methodology

- A Qualitative approach was used
- The specific qualitative research method that was chosen was the focus group research method
- It presents an environment in which participants influence each other as happens in life in relation to their perceptions, feelings, and thinking about particular issues
- Limitation in using focus groups:
 - Focus groups do not allow for generalization of the findings

Focus Group Guides

Several focus group guides targeting specific categories of people and different issues were investigated.

The issues to be investigated include:

- sugar daddy and sugar mommy practices,
- sex between adults and children,
- sex with multiple partners, teenage pregnancies,
- child abuse,
- sexual practices including homosexuality, anal sex, dry sex and sex in the presence of blood,
- sleeping in the same room with children especially in informal settlements,
- teenage sexuality, and
- male circumcision.

Procedure

Training:

- All HSRC staff and external facilitators attended a 1 day training session on how to conduct focus groups
- All the potential focus group facilitators were supplied with a focus group training manual comprising all the material available in the proposal, as well as more in-depth information on their responsibilities, qualitative methodologies, conflict mediation strategies, and background literature on social and cultural issues that are pertinent to the study.

Procedure continued

In the field:

- Permission was sought from relevant gate keepers for each target group
- Once the groups were constituted appropriately, informed consent, and informed assent was first administered in groups before the actual focus group discussions were conducted.

Procedure continued

- The groups were run for up to 2 hours in a language that was commonly used in a particular area of the country.
- Sessions were digitally audio recorded. During the groups the co-facilitator also kept session notes, which were used to check transcripts for accuracy
- Some light refreshments were served during the focus group sessions. This was in keeping with both the *ubuntu* (humanism) philosophy of life which is widely practiced in various communities throughout South Africa and what is generally recommended in social research
- The audio recordings of each focus group conducted are saved in a specific file for transcription purposes.

Quality Control of data collection

- a) *Participant checking*: Periodic feedback sessions will be held to present the results of the data collection to the participants to test whether they agree with them.
- b) *Data cross-checking*: this activity involves researchers stepping back to consider what the analyzed data mean and to assess their implications for the questions at hand. This will help the researchers to ensure that the data are credible, defensible, warranted, and able to withstand alternative explanations.
- c) *Moderator reviews*: the focus group moderators to have regular meetings to cross-check the quality of each other's data sets.
- d) *Ongoing reflection on data*: the researchers to start analysis almost in tandem with data collection. This will help researchers identify tentative interpretations or emerging hypotheses during the fieldwork process.

Ethical considerations

- Ethical approval was sought and obtained from the HSRC's Research Ethics Committee (REC) and the CDC's Institutional Review Boards (IRB).
- An Information Sheet was made available to all participants. In addition, an Informed Consent Form was available for youths and adults as well as parents/guardians of children aged 14-17 years while an Informed Assent Form was available for children aged 14-17 years
- The original consent or assent forms which are in English was both translated and back-translated (i.e., back into English) independently by professional translators into the other 10 official national languages used in South Africa. The back-translation insured the accurateness of the translations

Current status of study

1. Atlas ti training was attended by all HSRC staff involved in the study in order to assist with the management and analysis of the 51 focus group transcripts and each HSRC selected max 3 topics of interest for analysis and writing up of the report.

(Please see Grid for analysis)

Current status of study continued:

Topic	Selected topic of interest for analysis: SABSSM3: Focus Group Report
Teenage Pregnancy	[Redacted]
Multiple Partnerships	<p>Suzanne Le-Sauvage</p> <p>Konnyasi Plawomli</p> <p>Nokhona Lwaga</p>
Sugar Daddies	<p>Suzanne Le-Sauvage</p>
Sugar Mommies	<p>Suzanne Le-Sauvage</p>
Informal Settlements	[Redacted]
Sexual abuse/child sexual abuse	[Redacted]
Male Circumcision	<p>2011/12 PI 100-11</p>
Sexual debut	[Redacted]
Sex Practices	<p>Allanisa Cioele</p>

Current status of study continued:

3. Create a SABSSM3 Focus Group data base on the intranet for:
 - access to individuals (HSRC) for analysis
 - access to specific papers and reports regarding data from the Focus Group data for any individual interested in the SABSSM3: Formative phase data.

(Please see illustration of Data base to be created on the intranet)

Research project

SABSSM III - The Third South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence, Behaviour and Communication Survey 2008: Formative Phase

Status :	Current
Project leader :	...
Other team members :	...
Responsible department :	Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS and Health
Research Collaborators	CDC CADRE NICD MARC UNICEF

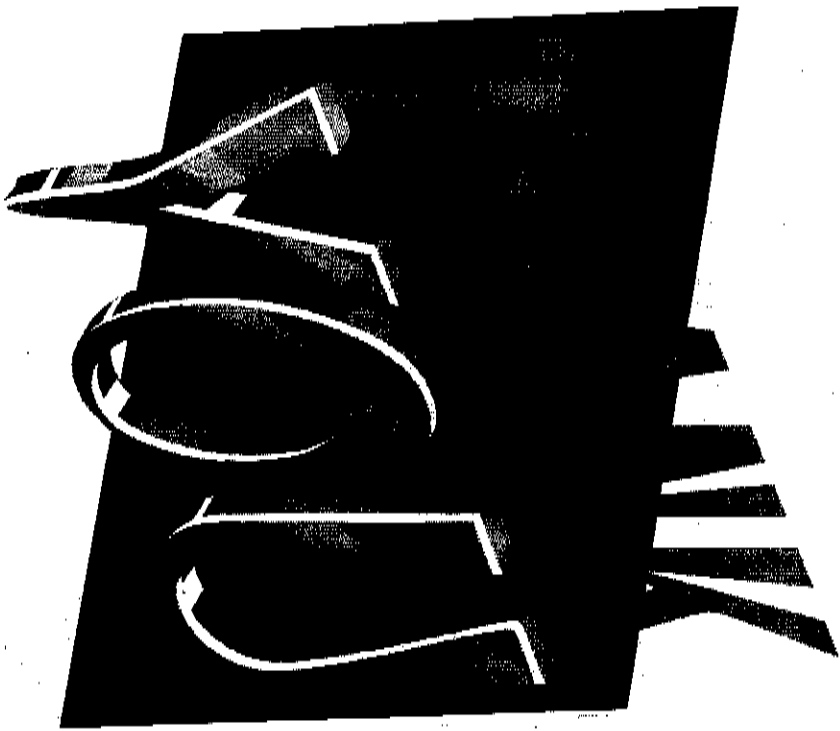
Research publications(s) : ...

Project summary

Project Proposal - Pdf Doc. (Locked document -- no editing)
 Draft report - Word Doc. (Open for editing)

Focus Group Data

Province	Question Guide	Title	Transcription	Translation	Summary	Focus Group Recording
Northern Cape	Word Doc.	Teenage pregnancy & Multiple sexual partnerships	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sleeping around and Male circumcision	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Informal settlements & child sexual abuse & teen pregnancy	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sexual debut & Teenage pregnancy	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sexual practices & Sugar mommies	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sexual practices & Sugar daddies	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Male circumcision & sugar daddies	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Teenage pregnancy & Multiple sexual partnerships	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sleeping around and Male circumcision	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Informal settlements & child sexual abuse & teen pregnancy	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
Western Cape	Word Doc.	Sexual debut & Teenage pregnancy	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sexual practices & Sugar mommies	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Sexual practices & Sugar daddies	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File
	Word Doc.	Child sexual abuse & sexual abuse	Word Doc.	Word Doc.	Pdf Doc.	Windows media player. File



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