

What are the sexually transmitted disease rates among adolescents 14 years and older, who receive Adolescent Family Life Program abstinence versus sexual education?

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Abstract

Adolescents continue to be at high risk for STDs . The goal of the current study was to examine the relationship between AFLP program and rates of STDs among adolescents. Secondary data was used for this analysis. The current study consisted of 169 respondents. The experimental group was given the AFLP program. The current study did not show any statistical difference regarding STD rates among the two groups. Further research should expand on STD and AFLP programs in most at risk populations.

Introduction

Significance of Study

- There are persistent barriers to adolescent’s sexual health and education access, within the AFLP program.
- The AFLP does not provide the innovation needed to protect adolescents from pregnancy and STDs.

Purpose

- The purpose of this outcome evaluation is to assess the impact that the Adolescent Family Life Program has on adolescent's perseverance in reducing high risk sexual behavior

Research Question

- What are the sexually transmitted disease rates among adolescents 14 years and older, who receive Adolescent Family Life Program abstinence versus sexual education?

Hypothesis

- Participants who received AFLP program will have reduced STD rates.

Literature Review

- Studies have shown that access to sexual education is critical to reducing rates of STD
- In 2017 CDC and OPA’s Quality Family Planning (QFP) set the guidelines for reproductive healthcare
- QFP is driven by client centered approach
- QFP has been the undisputed standard until opposition of every major medical organization
- In 2019, with the enactment of Final Rule, fewer adolescent clients received family planning services and fewer women under the age of twenty-five were tested for STD
- Title X has been deemed the most important public health achievement of the 20th century
- A target goal of AFLP is teaching adolescents the essential skills and interventions to make healthy sexual choices

Methodology

Research Design

- The data is collected from projects funded through Title XX, the Adolescent Family Life (AFLP) program.
- The original data included data from projects with experimental or quasi-experimental local evaluation designs.
- The current study is a secondary data analysis of the original AFLP data set,

Sample

- Baseline surveys were completed by 2,644 youths in 6 Prevention projects across 6 states and 1,037 adolescents in 12 Care projects across 10 states.
- The participants in this study were a convenience sample of participants in selected Adolescent Family Life demonstration projects in 14 states total across the country.
- The sample data is the follow-ups that are 127 percent of 169 for Treatment group and 41 percent of 168 for Control group

Measures

Independent Variables ALFP

- Control Group did not receive AFLP Program
- Treatment Group received AFLP Program

Dependent Variables STD

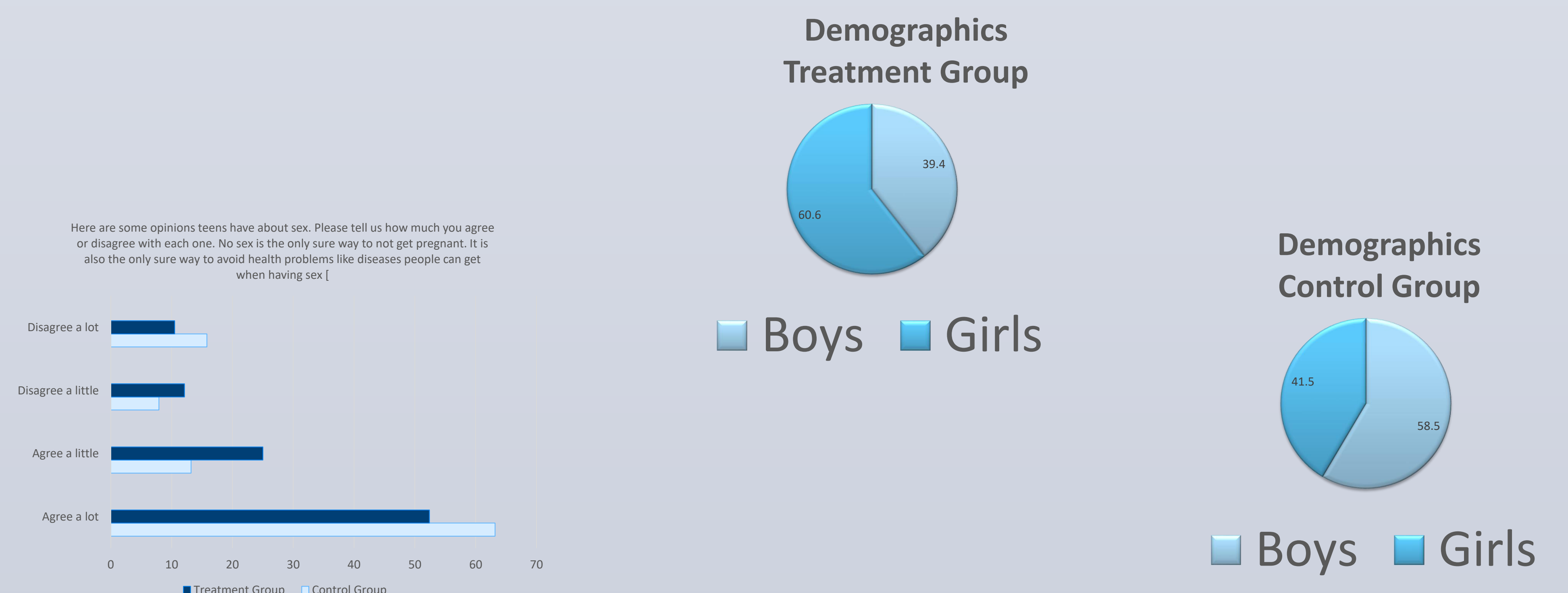
-How often in the last 3 months have you talked to one or both of your parents about any of these things? Disease's people can get when having sex
 -Here are some opinions teens have about sex. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each one. No sex is the only sure way to not get pregnant. It is also the only sure way to avoid health problems like diseases people can get when having sex
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Results

- Respondents were mostly boys (58.5%) in the control group and mostly girls (60.6%) in the treatment group
- Most respondents identified as White in both control group (43.95%) and treatment group (39.8%).
- Hispanics respondents represented the next largest ethnic group 31.7% in control group and 28.9% in treatment group
- Respondents on both control (60.5%) and treatment (66.1%) group had mostly two parent households.

Inferential Statistics

- No statistical significance between AFLP implementation and STD rates amongst adolescents.



Discussion

- AFLP program did not place emphasis on STD to make an impact on rates
- AFLP needs a larger sample size of specified target population to gather more accurate data for general public
- Inferences should not be made about ALPF and STD but should be researched more thoroughly

Strengths & Limitations

- The main strength for the current study was that it brought awareness to a pressing issue amongst adolescents, that of STD rates and sexual education.
- The secondary data also provided a great framework and some insight towards the future research.

Implications for Future Research

- Another approach considered from sample size is inclusive of more diverse populations but also given the context of the target adolescents rates where results are needed.

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