

NEED FOR SEX EDUCATION IN SCHOOL/ UNIVERSITY

S. Taneepanichskul

Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine Chulalongkorn University Bangkok Thailand 10330.

Adolescence is a time of tremendous opportunity and change. It is also a time of heightened vulnerability. There are many factors that contribute to this vulnerability such as, rapid social change, earlier start to puberty, the impact of mass media, contacts across cultural boundaries and consumerism - globalization. The resulting problems are numerous; premarital sex, unsafe sex, teenage pregnancies, unintended pregnancy, abortion, sexual abuse and violence, STIs, and HIV/AIDS.

School is an important learning source for this age group. Young people spend significant amounts of time at school and in the classroom interacting with their peers and teachers. Providing sexuality education and information within the school system is an excellent way to reach young people. However, Thailand does not have a consistent national policy regarding sexuality education within the school system. There is also a distinct shortage of experts and teachers available with the specialized knowledge and training to provide this education.

The sex education program would include education modules for students and also training and skill development for the teachers required to deliver this information. Beside the sex education program in school and university, we also developed special program for adolescents. This special program named "My love-My control". The contents of program were group discussion, case presentation and edutainment about safe sex and contraception. This special program was quite success. The students and teachers who participated in this program were very satisfied and gained more experience and knowledge.

In conclusion, there is the need of sex education for adolescent in school and university. These models would be useful for other countries to initiate the sex education. However, adaptation of these models would be done to be suitable for each culture.