

Adolescence Sexuality, Reproductive Health and HIV and AIDS prevention programme

Introduction

Since its inception in the beginning of the year 2006, this program has aggressively sought to improve the adolescents' knowledge on Sexuality, Reproductive Health and HIV & AIDS prevention through the religious community-Christians and Muslims-, Student Christian Movement (SCM) in Kenya, and high schools in the two major cities in Kenya namely Nairobi and Mombasa. This has been through seminars, symposiums, lectures, and camps.

Findings

We have found out that knowledge on sexuality and reproductive health is absolutely wanting. Young persons are wallowing in the mire of deceit, confusion, myths, and misconceptions as handed down from yester generations but made worse in this era of improved passage of unfiltered information. Again, the school curriculum formulators as well as the religious leaders have not done enough towards acknowledging that a human being is composed of the physical, emotional and spiritual attributes which all require equal measure of nourishment. They choose to grasp one and let go of the other. This has led to people experiencing an imbalanced growth. It has its consequences. For instance, today, some girls will not have the joy of experiencing menarche. Lo and behold, conception at first ovulation! This is not all; massive abortions, HIV infections, emotional turmoil, sexually transmitted infections, and so on continue to reign in the adolescents' empire.

Response

In our outreach endeavours in high schools and religious groups, we have been well received. Our interactions with the young people have been very encouraging. Therefore, we have continued to do what is within our means to bring the expectations of this programme closer home.

Way forward

We at the WSCF fully understand that the process of change is long and at times turbulent yet inevitable. We have refused to wait until "blood is shed" and then hurry in with brooms and mops to clean the mess. We have chosen the active path of sharing the correct information with the youth with an aim of helping them lead a more fulfilling life. Though it remains in the soil for a while, the seed we plant today will definitely, in a little while, germinate, blossom, flourish and bear fruits; fruits that will last. May the Almighty God bless the work of our hands.