Main Takeaway:

It appears Latinx emerging adults receive more comprehensive sexual health information from friends, and selective messages from their family, school, religion, and ethnic identity. However, the accuracy of the messages from friends is unknown.

Friends

School

Family

Ethnic Identity

Religion

FEEL: Supported
Comfortable sharing experiences

• Sexual Comfort
• Sexual pleasure
• Sexual support
• Sexual control
• Sexual satisfaction
• Felt it normalized contraceptives

• Abstinence
• Contraceptives

• No conversation
• Avoidance
• Heteronormative
• Condom use
• None
• Heteronormative
• Avoidance

• Wait until marriage
• Heteronormative

Questions:
• Where did you receive messages about sexual health behaviors?
• What messages did you receive about sexual health?
• How do you feel now about the messages you received?
• How have these messages impacted you today?

Methods:
• 27 self-identified men (data analysis ongoing)
• Current participants:
  • All identified as a Hispanic cisgender men, sexually active, within the ages of 18-19 years
• Thematic analysis was used
• Coding by 3 members, fourth member was auditor

Discussion:
• Regardless of the message (good or bad, correct or incorrect) Latinx emerging adults appear to value the sexual messages they are receiving from their friends.
• It appears that these messages from friends are more comprehensive and extend beyond prevention of STIs and pregnancies.
• These statements seem to include aspects of sexual satisfaction which is important component for quality of life (Flynn, et al., 2016)
• Messages from friends, however, might not be factually accurate.
• Because individuals seem to be receiving comprehensive sex messages from their friends, sex education interventions may be most effective if they are focused on educating those who are most apt to share comprehensive sex education, in this case the participants’ friends.
• Using peers to educate students (in line with normative social influence)
• Using mediums in which individuals of this age communicate to convey sexual health information (Facebook, Twitter, etc)

Connect with us:
@Joecurrin4real
@bmpwatson
michael.sharkey@ttu.edu
joe.currin@ttu.edu
brandy.pina.watson@ttu.edu
http://crrinlab.wordpress.com
http://pinawatsonlab.wordpress.com
#NLPAPA2019
#R3S#BTTU
RexScience#RexualHealth
#TexasAandMPScience

¿Chisme o realidad?: A qualitative analysis of how sexually active Latinx emerging adults acquire and perceive sexual health information

Matthew J. Sharkey, BS; Joseph M. Currin, PhD; Brandy Piña-Watson, PhD; Amelia E. Evans, MA; Crystal Chambers, BS
Texas Tech University

Introduction

Sexual health education continues to be a hotly debated topic in the United States, including what topics to include, when to begin education, and who should provide sexual health information.

Literature has focused on the importance of parent-child communication about sex and sexual health (Halpem-Felsher, Kropp, Boyer, Tischman, & Ehren, 2014), however only a little over one-third (38%) of Latinx individuals identify their parents as their primary source of sex information (Eversole, Berglas, Deardorff, Constantine, 2017).

When Latinx individuals identify friends as their primary source of sexual health information, they are less likely to use condoms at their next sexual activity (Eversole, Berglas, Deardorff, Constantine, 2017)

To date, information provided to youth varies by school district, with some youth receiving little to no sexual health information (Guttmacher Institute, 2017).

Understanding how Latinx emerging adults acquire sexual health information may provide insight into the unique challenges these individuals face when navigating their initial sexual relationships.

Questions:
• Where did you receive messages about sexual health behaviors?
• What messages did you receive about sexual health?
• How do you feel now about the messages you received?
• How have these messages impacted you today?

Methods:
• 27 self-identified men (data analysis ongoing)
• Current participants:
  • All identified as a Hispanic cisgender men, sexually active, within the ages of 18-19 years
• Thematic analysis was used
• Coding by 3 members, fourth member was auditor

Discussion:
• Regardless of the message (good or bad, correct or incorrect) Latinx emerging adults appear to value the sexual messages they are receiving from their friends.
• It appears that these messages from friends are more comprehensive and extend beyond prevention of STIs and pregnancies.
• These statements seem to include aspects of sexual satisfaction which is important component for quality of life (Flynn, et al., 2016)
• Messages from friends, however, might not be factually accurate.
• Because individuals seem to be receiving comprehensive sex messages from their friends, sex education interventions may be most effective if they are focused on educating those who are most apt to share comprehensive sex education, in this case the participants’ friends.
• Using peers to educate students (in line with normative social influence)
• Using mediums in which individuals of this age communicate to convey sexual health information (Facebook, Twitter, etc)

Connect with us:
@Joecurrin4real
@bmpwatson
michael.sharkey@ttu.edu
joe.currin@ttu.edu
brandy.pina.watson@ttu.edu
http://crrinlab.wordpress.com
http://pinawatsonlab.wordpress.com
#NLPAPA2019
#R3S#BTTU
RexScience#RexualHealth
#TexasAandMPScience

What types of messages did you receive from your friends group regarding acceptable sexual behavior?

“I would say its messages—acceptable like for my friends would just be experiences, it is just deal with what we went off of or I had some friends that would be that experiences, and they just tell us what happened and how they happened. That’s kind of how like we get informed, by our peers.”

“My friends group was just people that were close to me. I didn’t really get any messages besides like being with friends.”

“I’d say like it was just a lot of contact, it was more like you had to have had some like that experience and things like that. It’s just the kind of how it is supposed to be, but really none of my friends or my parents followed that guideline. So, it really didn’t have an influence. If I’d just say, I didn’t feel like it was religion didn’t have an influence, it was just something that I handled with my parents.”