

Thesis Title The Effectiveness of Health Education Program
on AIDS Prevention Among Grade 12 Male Students
in Petchaburi Province

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ABSTRACT

AIDS is one of major health and social problems. It effects not only to the health status of infected persons but also to the socio-economic, the image and the security of the country. At the present, the prevalence rate of sexually-related AIDS has rapidly been increasing in all age-groups. The highest rate is found among the youngsters. Thus, the main objective of this research was to assess the effectiveness of health education program on AIDS prevention among twelfth grade male students in Petchaburi province of Thailand. In designing health education strategies, key concepts of the Protection Motivation and Social Support theories were applied.

The sample of this quasi-experimental study were 80 and 108 male students from the experimental and the comparison schools. The experimental group was required to participate in the program four times in 12 weeks. Main activities of the program comprised of group discussion; demonstration; learning from a scenario provided; pannel discussion by an HIV positive person, a father's student with HIV

positive, an AIDS counselor; and showing a VDO. The experimental group students also received social support from their peers and the researcher. Self-administered questionnaires were employed for data collection. The Multiple Classification Analysis (MCA) was used to analyse the data.

The results of this study showed that, the experimental group gained a statistically higher level of knowledge about AIDS; threat appraisal from AIDS which comprised of the perception of severity and of vulnerability to the threat; and coping appraisal to AIDS which consisted partially of preventive response-efficacy and self-efficacy, after participating the health education program. However, the AIDS preventive practice of the students was not significantly changed. It was also found that, the students' AIDS preventive behavior was more significantly influenced by enabling factors (sexual intercourse experience, alcohol drinking, watching pornographic VDO, reading pornographic book) than predisposing factors (the knowledge, the threat and the coping appraisal regarding to AIDS). Among these factors, the sexual intercourse experience was the most important predictor of students' AIDS preventive behavior followed by the perception of severity of the threat, alcohol drinking, and the preventive response-efficacy respectively. About sixty two percent of the variance on AIDS preventive behavior could be explained by all the above factors in this study model.

Regarding to the findings, it should be recommended that the planned health education program with the application of the Protection Motivation and Social Support theories is enable for the students to gain more knowledge, perception, and efficacy as well as behavior change on AIDS prevention. It can be applied and extended this program to secondary school students nationwide.