

The association of sociodemographic profile, parental monitoring and peer risk-taking on the development of high-risk sexual behavior among filipino adolescents enrolled in urban public and private high schools

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The study aimed to determine the association of sociodemographic profile, parental monitoring and peer risk behavior on the development of high-risk sexual behavior among Filipino adolescents 15-19 years old. Specifically, it aimed to 1) determine the prevalence of adolescents involved in sexual risk-taking behavior; and 2) determine the variables significance on the occurrence of high-risk sexual behavior. This was a cross-sectional study conducted in one public and one private high school in Quezon City and Manila offering senior high school curriculum. A total of 157 participants were randomly selected. Informed consent and assent form from parent and participant were secured. Using a classroom-based questionnaire the first part consisted 28 items covering the sociodemographic profile, parental monitoring practices and risk-taking behavior with peers. The second part consisted of 8 items on sexual risk-taking behavior. Post-survey health teaching was conducted, focusing on right choices with regards to sexual health. Logistic regression analysis was used for statistical analysis. Eight percent (n=13) of the participants were at high risk. Older age (p=0.007) higher parental permissiveness (p=0.047) and gang association (p=0.031) showed significant influence among high-risk participants. The results of the study reflected significant proportion of adolescents involved in high-risk sexual behavior. Variables such as age, parental permissiveness and peer group association must be considered by health care professionals and policy makers in caring for Filipino adolescents in the area of sexuality and sexual behavior.