

Abstract

Barmaids are among the high-risk group of infection of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Most barmaids are young women who migrate from rural areas with a purpose to engage in formal employment to earn a living. However, since most of them have low levels of education and are unskilled they end up in low income earning jobs including working as barmaids. Due to the nature of their work, they are placed at a higher risk of involving themselves in risky sexual behaviour undertakings. Limited studies in Tanzania have examined sexual behaviour of barmaids and the risks involved.

The overall objective of the paper is to examine correlates of sexual behaviour among barmaids. Specifically the paper determines the; incidence of pregnancy, abortion and STIs among barmaids; influence of alcohol consumption on sexual behaviour; association between demographic variables (age, marital status, number of children. The paper employs data from a cross-sectional study using a randomly selected sample of 60 respondents from randomly selected bars in Morogoro Municipality. An interview using standard questions was employed to obtain information. Analysis will use an index of sexual behaviour to be developed from using six variables. These are frequency of sexual intercourse, incidence of STIs, incidence of abortion, number of sexual partners, use of condoms during sex and consistency in using condoms during sex.

The paper shows that the majority of barmaids: age wise are around 20-25 years; are engaged in bar business at the age of 17 years; are single or divorced; have one to two children; have primary level of education; receive an income of Tanzania Shillings 20,000 (about US \$15) per month; have parents who are peasants; live in rented houses and have single rooms. In terms of sexual behaviour, barmaids: are all sexually active; majority of them began sex when they were between age 12 to 14 years; have more than three sexual partners; usually use condoms during sex although most of them never used condom at the first time they had sex; and have never been infected with STDs.

The paper recommends that special interventions targeting low-income earners should be constituted. In addition, labour regulations should be enforced to ensure that employers pay their staff the government's set minimum wages. NGOs are also asked to design programmes towards barmaids to protect them from risks associated with their sexual behaviour.

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Signature.....

Name.....Date.....

Acknowledgments

The studies of this nature need the assistance of many people. I therefore wish to express my sincere thanks to my sponsor, Higher Learning Student Loan Board (HSLB). For their support in course work component, which enable me to proceed with this research work.

Special thanks go to my supervisor Prof E.A Mwageni for his guidance and continuous help throughout the course. His Constructive comments have significantly contributed in shaping this work.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr.Mbambo, Mr.B.S Mwakolobo of DSI, Mr. Benedict Mdabagi my classmate and Mr.Furaha Piniel Ole Levilal from Mo College of Film and Television production Nairobi, Kenya for their valuable contributions to this work.

My thanks also go to the research assistants who helped me with difficult field work. I also grateful acknowledge the co-operation I received from my colleagues and office mate for their advice during preparation of the research proposal.

I deeply thank my beloved parents Mr and Mrs Mendile for raising me and supporting me towards my education life. I also wish to thank my sisters Frola, Berty and my young sisters Prisca, Pricillah and Monica.

DEDICATION

To my Loving parents Mr Phliberty Mendile and Mrs Martha Mendile for their immense scarifies they went through in ensuring that I get Education, they are person behind my all success.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immuno- Deficiency Syndrome
AMREF	African Media and Research Foundation
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
HIV	Human Immuno- deficiency Virus
ILO	International Labour Organisation
MoH	Ministry of Health
MKUKUTA	Mpango wa Kukuza Uchumi na Kupunguza Umaskini Tanzania
SPSS	Statistical Program for Social Sciences
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TAMWA	Tanzania Media Women's Association
TAWLA	Tanzania Women's Law Association

TACAIDS

Tanzania Commission of AIDS