

IMAGINE MEN'S HEALTH STUDY: CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL RISK TAKING AMONG GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN OF COLOUR

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Declaration of Conflict of Interest & Funding



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- ❖ The current study is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).
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Research Team

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Co-Investigators

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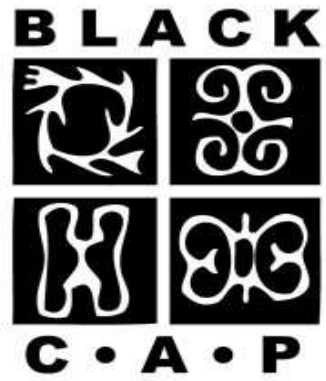
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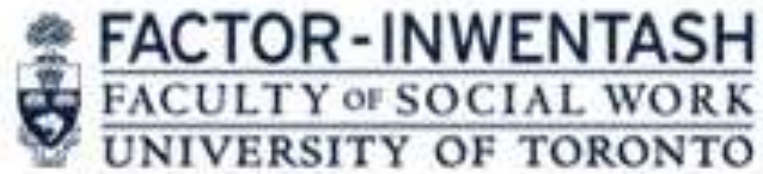
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Community Advisory Committee

- ❖ **Shazad Hai**, MSM Outreach Coordinator, Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention.
- ❖ **Daniel Le**, Gay Men's Health Promoter, Asian Community AIDS Services
- ❖ **David Lewis-Peart**, MSM Outreach Coordinator, Black CAP.
- ❖ **Marco Posadas**, Bathhouse Counselor Initiative Coordinator, AIDS Committee of Toronto.
- ❖ **Tavinder Channa**, Community Member
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- ❖ **Anthony Chen**, Community Member
- ❖ **Gerardo Betancourt**, HIV Prevention Program Coordinator, Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples
- ❖ **Marco Gomez**, Policy consultant



AIDS Committee of Toronto



STUDY BACKGROUND

- ❑ Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA) has been associated with HIV risk among gay and bisexual men. Prevalence ranges from 12%-40% (depending on context).
- ❑ More than 1 in 7 gay and bisexual men in a non-clinical, festival-based setting were victims of CSA (Brennan, Hellerstedt, Ross, Welles, 2007)
- ❑ Previous research has shown that among GBM, sexual risk has been associated with prior experiences of CSA (Jinich, Paul, Stall, Acree, Kegeles, Hoff, Coates, 1998; Sweet and Welles, 2011)
- ❑ Based on predominantly white samples (Brennan, Hellerstedt, Ross, Welles, 2007; Sweet and Welles, 2011)

STUDY BACKGROUND

- **Purpose:** To examine the relationship between childhood sexual abuse, demographic factors and HIV risk among GBM of colour.

- **Multi-phase, mixed-methods study:**
 - Phase 1: Focus groups & interviews (n=61);
 - Phase 2: Survey (n=389)

- **Community Collaboration:** Roles of Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

- **4 Ethnoracial communities:**
 - East/Southeast Asian;
 - Black/Caribbean/African;
 - Hispanic/Latino/Brazilian;
 - South Asian.

METHODS

Eligibility:

- 1) 18 years old+ male
- 2) Identify as gay or bisexual or report having had sex with another man in the past 12 months
- 3) Identify with at least one of the four ethnoracial communities.
- 4) English speaking

METHODS



- Data Collection:** online survey

- Completers (n=410)
- Non-completers (n=510)
- Completion rate: 44%

Recruitment

- Research Team and Community Advisory Committee
- ASOs: BlackCAP, ACAS, ASAAP, CSSP, ACT
- Online listserves: RHO, OHTN, RHN, Senior Pride Network, & CATIE listservs
- Community agencies/groups: 519, SOY, SALAAM.
- CAMH, Hassle Free, Maple Leaf Clinic.
- Bath houses, bars & clubs, dance venues
- Online postings on Craigslist, Facebook, Twitter
- Word of Mouth
- Church Street postings
- Xtra! Magazine
- Proud FM

METHODS

➤ MEASURES

- Demographics Questionnaire
- Childhood Sexual Abuse Questions
- Sexual Risk Behaviours Questionnaire

➤ DATA ANALYSIS

- Used SPSS-21

Experiences of Childhood Abuse

- **As a child or adolescent, were you ever forced to have unwanted sex (oral, anal, body rubbing, touching, massage, or mutual masturbation to orgasm without any insertion) with adults or teenagers who were at least four years older than you? Please indicate the number of times this happened to you. Please select Never if this never happened to you.**

	Never	Once	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently
Sex with older males					

Sexual Risk Behaviours Questionnaire

- Being a “bottom” (getting fucked) without a condom
- Being a “bottom” (getting fucked) using a condom
- Being a “top” (fucking a guy) without a condom
- Being a “top” (fucking a guy) using a condom
- Giving oral sex and having the guy ejaculate (cum) in your mouth
- Giving oral sex and not have the guy ejaculate (cum) in your mouth.
- Receiving oral sex.
- Body rubbing, touching, massage, or mutual masturbation to orgasm without any insertion.

Please write the number of times you did each of these activities with HIV-positive male sexual partners, HIV-negative sexual partners and sexual partners of unknown HIV status, **IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS.**

Both primary male partners (boyfriend, partner, husband), and/or secondary male sexual partner (new dating partner, one-night stand, a trick)

Sexual Risk was defined as serodiscordant unprotected anal sex with primary partners or any anal sex with secondary partners

Results

Demographics Characteristics of Participants from the Imagine Men's Health Study (N=369)

Characteristic	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%) or Mean (S.D.)
Race		
Black, African, Caribbean	80	21.7
East/South East Asian	101	27.4
Latino, Hispanic, Brazilian	91	24.7
South Asian	76	20.6
Mixed	21	5.7
Sexual Orientation		
Homosexual/Gay	310	84.0
Bisexual	59	16.0
Age (mean, SD)		33.1 (8.6)
18-24	61	16.5
25-29	93	25.2
30-39	124	33.6
40-49	78	22.1
50+	13	3.5
Household Income		
0-9,999	68	18.4
10,000-29,999	103	27.9
30,000-59,999	102	27.6
60,000+	96	26.0

Results

Characteristic	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%) or Mean (S.D.)
<i>Canadian or Foreign-Born</i>		
Canadian-Born	116	31.4
Foreign-Born	253	68.6
<i>Highest Education Level Completed</i>		
High School or Less	81	22.0
Some Post-Secondary/College	99	26.8
Bachelor Degree or Greater	189	51.8
<i>HIV Status</i>		
Negative	276	74.8
Positive	64	17.3
Not Sure	29	7.9
<i>HIV Sexual Risk</i>		
No	250	67.8
Yes	119	32.2
<i>Childhood Sexual Abuse</i>		
Never	261	67.1
Once	43	11.1
Rarely	30	7.7
Sometimes	37	9.5
Frequently	18	4.6

FINDINGS

□ Bivariate Analyses

- **Sexual Risk & CSA**

- Participants who reported HIV risk were also more likely to report experiencing CSA frequently ($t=-4.19, p<.001$).

- **Sexual Risk & Race/Ethnicity** ($F= 2.8, df=4, p<.05$)

- Black participants ($M=11.2, SD=25.7$) reported more sexual risk behaviours compared to East/ South East Asian participants ($M=2.0, SD=7.7$) ($p<.05$)

FINDINGS

❑ Logistic Regression Modeling

❑ Sig. Final Model ($\chi^2 = 78.27, p < .001$)

❑ Final model accounts for 29% of the variance in sexual risk: $R^2 = 29.3$

❑ Variables entered in the model:

- Age, household income, education level, employment status, HIV status, sexual orientation
- CSA (dummy coded; reference group = “never”)
- Sexual Risk (dependent variable)

FINDINGS

Logistic Regression	B	S.E.	AOR	95%CI
Childhood Sexual Abuse (frequently compared to never)	.62	.29	1.86	1.06 - 3.27
Education (High school or less compared to Bachelor's degree or greater)	.78	.37	2.19	1.05 - 4.55
HIV status (reference group = HIV-negative)				
<i>HIV-positive</i>	1.75	.37	5.79	2.80 - 11.98
<i>HIV-unknown</i>	2.15	.53	8.60	3.00 - 24.50

IMPLICATIONS

- ❑ Among GBM of colour, HIV risk was significantly associated with CSA.
- ❑ Further research is needed to better understand the link between experiences of CSA and current sexual behaviours within the context of preventing HIV risk among GBM of colour.

IMPLICATIONS

- ❑ These findings confirm the importance of taking into account the relevance of childhood sexual abuse experience and its affect on the delivery of services, prevention interventions, and health care to GBM of colour.

Thank You!

- The participants
- Members of Community Advisory Committee
- Members of Research Team
- Staff Team
 - *Kenta Asakura*
 - *Rhonda Hackett*
 - *Rusty Souleymanov*



Questions?
Comments?

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