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- TRACK

Effects of a School Health Intervention
on Adolescents' Knowledge of Sexual
and Reproductive Health Issues in
Ebonyi State, Southeast Nigeria



EKO 2023
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Driving Innovation for
Adolescent and Youth Health



SOCIETY FOR ADOLESCENT
AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
HEALTH IN NIGERIA



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Introduction

- **Background**
 - There has been a disproportionate burden of poor sexual and reproductive health outcomes among adolescents
 - This could be linked to their level of knowledge of SRH issues.
 - Lack of knowledge about sexual and reproductive health (SRH) issues among adolescents predisposes them to risky sexual behaviours, with poor SRH outcomes
- **Study objective**
 - This study evaluated the impact of a school-based health intervention on the knowledge of SRH issues among adolescents in six local government areas of Ebonyi State, Nigeria



Methods

- Compared knowledge of SRH issues in intervention and non-intervention schools
- Data were collected from 503 adolescent boys and girls aged 13–18, using a pretested structured, interviewer-administered questionnaire
- Participants selected through simple random sampling technique
- Bivariate and multivariate analyses were performed
- The level of statistical significance was p -value of <0.05

Results: Table 1: Factors associated with the knowledge of SRH

Variable	knowledge of SRH (n=503)		χ^2 (p-value)
	Good N (%)	Poor N (%)	
Age group			
Early adolescent	60 (84.51)	11 (15.49)	3.146 (0.207)
Middle adolescent	345 (91.27)	33 (8.73)	
Late adolescent	48 (88.89)	6 (11.11)	
Location			
Urban	223 (88.84)	28 (11.16)	0.826 (0.363)
Rural	230 (91.27)	22 (8.73)	
Gender			
Male	149 (93.71)	10 (6.29)	3.462 (0.063)
Female	304 (88.37)	40 (11.63)	
Live with Parents			
Yes	424 (89.83)	48 (10.17)	0.326 (0.568)
No	27 (93.10)	2 (6.90)	
Level of schooling			
Junior secondary	165 (86.39)	26 (13.61)	4.638 (0.031)*
Senior secondary	288 (92.31)	24 (7.69)	
Work for pay			
Yes	74 (84.27)	14 (15.73)	4.342 (0.037)*
No	377 (91.50)	35 (8.50)	
Intervention			
Yes	242 (94.16)	15 (5.84)	9.886 (0.002)*
No	211 (85.77)	35 (14.23)	

Table 2: Predictors of knowledge about SRH

Variable	Adjusted odds ratio	p-value	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower	Upper
Gender				
Female	0.314	0.005	0.139	0.710
Male	1			
Location				
Urban	0.482	0.034	0.245	0.947
Rural	1			
Work for pay				
Yes	0.311	0.003	0.142	0.679
No	1			
Intervention				
Yes	3.301	0.000	1.686	6.460
No	1			



Conclusion

- The school-based intervention improved the knowledge of SRH issues among adolescents
- The adoption and scale-up of such interventions should ensure that there is equal participation of girls, junior students, working adolescents, and those who reside in urban areas