

**Attitude of Youths towards the Use of Condom in Heterosexual Intercourse in Ekpoma Nigeria**

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**ABSTRACT** This study examined the attitude of youths towards the use of condom. The study was carried out in Ekpoma, the Administrative Headquarters of Esan West Local Government Area of Edo State, Nigeria. Three hundred and twenty-eight youths participated in the study and the convenience sampling method was used to select the respondents included in the study. Questionnaire was the major instrument of data collection in the study and the questionnaire was content validated. The test and retest method, was used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire. In this study, majority of the respondents were aware of the efficacy of condom and its use in heterosexual intercourse. But despite the fact that majority of the respondents were aware of the efficacy of condom in preventing HIV transmission in heterosexual intercourse, only a few use condoms. This inverse relationship between the awareness of the efficacy of condom and its use, is a big paradox and challenge in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the society. In view of this paradox, enlightenment programmes geared towards changing the behaviour of youth, involving opinion and community leaders in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and establishing HIV/AIDS education in school curriculum, are suggested in the study.