SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND THE IMPACT ON JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI ADOLESCENTS

Paulette M. Ware, Elbony Smith, Jung Hye Sung and Jae Eun Lee

School of Health Sciences, College of Public Service, Jackson State University, 350 W. Woodrow Wilson Drive, Jackson, Mississippi, USA

Abstract This is a study of adolescents using condoms during sexual activities for protection against sexually transmitted diseases. The number of adolescents contracting sexually transmitted diseases has continued to increase significantly in the past year. To better understand if the use of condoms as a method of protection against sexually transmitted disease is effective, we administered the quantitative method of study to adolescents between the ages of 14-19. At the time of the study, 10 adolescents out of 30 had at some point contracted a sexually transmitted disease. The p value is p<0.05 for the use of condoms and sexually transmitted diseases. Therefore, we rejected the null hypothesis and concluded that condoms usages and sexually transmitted diseases are not independent. There is a relationship between condoms and sexually transmitted diseases. The fact that sexually transmitted infections can be severe if untreated and can have negative consequences, is very importance to educate our youth on prevention and bring awareness to the parents that this is happening and they should take an active role in the promotion, prevention and education of their children.