Dropping out of high school increases the likelihood of engaging in risk behaviors, and racial disparities are more pronounced in young African American women. Did not complete high school or earn a GED

Did not complete high school or earn a GED

Recruit here to better understand the reasons for this increased risk and the implications for public health interventions.

Heterosexual intercourse in the past 3 months

Research Team

Eligibility

Purpose

Methods

Results

Table 1. Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolled</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>237</td>
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- Age: 16-17 189 (46.4)
- Ever arrested: 128 (54.1)
- Below grade level for age: 144 (64.3)
- Ever dropped out of school: 69 (29.2)
- Ever traded sex: 42 (18.6)
- Ever engaged in any sexual activity: 92 (39.2)
- First sex ≤ 13 years of age: 26 (11)

Table 2. Baseline Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolled</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>237</td>
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</table>

- Race/ethnicity: 49 (21)
- Psychological abuse: 2 (11)
- Emotional violence: 9 (4)
- Sexual violence: 21 (9)
- Physical violence: 1 (0.4)
- Substance use: 40 (17)
- Gang affiliation: 123 (52)
- Sexual violence: 42 (18.6)
- Physical violence: 40 (17)

Figure 1. Study Design

YWC: 1.9 to 0.8 (p-value=0.064)

The Young Women’s CoOp was less likely to be in the highest risk class than the Nutrition group.

Nutrition: 42% to 55% (p-value=0.003)

- Abstinence from smoking marijuana during the previous 90 days
- Abstinence from sexual intercourse during the previous 90 days
- Abstinence from alcohol use during the previous 90 days

The Young Women’s CoOp was more likely to be in the highest risk class than the Nutrition group.

Results (continued)

Figure 4. Change from baseline to 3 months

- Unprotected sex at the last sexual encounter
- The proportion of Nutrition controls who had unprotected sex significantly increased
- YWC: 55% to 51% (p-value=0.44)
- Nutrition: 42% to 55% (p-value=0.041)

Figure 5. Average score for emotional violence from main partner

- Emotional violence from main partner score
- YWC had larger decrease in emotional violence than the Nutrition group.
- YWC: 5 to 0 (p-value=0.003)
- Nutrition: 3 to 0 (p-value=0.067)

Figure 6. Change in abstinence from marijuana during the previous 90 days

- The proportion of Nutrition controls who did not smoke marijuana significantly increased in the YWC.
- YWC: 14% to 26% (p-value=0.049)
- Nutrition: 21% to 36% (p-value=0.064)

Figure 7. Distribution of risk class

- The Young Women’s CoOp was less likely to be in the highest risk class than the Nutrition controls (p=0.04) at 3- and 6-month follow-ups

Discussion and Implications

- Prevention is needed on African American adolescents in rural communities in the South.
- STI incidence is high.
- Barriers to resources exist.

Next steps?

- Using technology that appeals to young people and is widely used
- Use smart phones with tailored messages as boosters

Future Directions

- Research is needed on African American adolescents in rural communities in the South.
- STI incidence is high.
- Barriers to resources exist.

Acknowledgments

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More Information

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