

# Gelaya

## **SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF SEXUAL HEALTH AMONG MALES WHO HAVE SEX WITH MALES AND THEIR SEXUAL PARTNERS IN MYSORE, INDIA, 2003**

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## Executive Summary

Unlike female sex workers and IDUs, MSM is not a bounded category of people, defined by a specific occupation or activity. Contemporary sexuality research has made it clear that bipolar categories, such as heterosexual and homosexual or even bisexual, are not very useful to describe the range of identities, desires and practices existing in most cultures. The terms “gay” or homosexual are also too bounded by history, geography and culture to have universal usefulness.

Other studies of MSM in India have revealed several important points pertinent to HIV behavioural risks. They found that an unknown proportion of men experience male-to-male sex, usually anal intercourse, while young, often before male-to-female sex and often with friends and relatives. Some portion of these young men find that their experience of sex between men resonates with their own sexual desires and gender role preferences. Still within the realm of the masculine, but feeling gratified in the receptive role, these men are called *kothis*. Their insertive partners are called *panthis*. *Kothis* are sometimes feminine in behaviour and few of them even take female hormones in order to develop breasts. They are not intersexed or *hijras*, but prefer to attract males as partners. Due to the social and familial pressure to marry and produce children, most *kothis* eventually marry, though many delay as long as possible. Sex within marriage is performed as a duty, but sex with other men continues for pleasure. Some *kothis*, (particularly if poor, although not necessarily) become sex workers. But it should be noted that not all male sex workers are *kothis*, and not all *kothis* are sex workers. Although in this study *kothi* sex workers by far were the majority in the sex-worker category.

*Kothis* seemed quite comfortable with their own sexuality, despite social disapproval, and had numerous male partners, both for pay and not-for-pay. *Panthis* are less clearly defined, being men of all ages and types, married and unmarried, who, at least at times, enjoy sex with other men. The sexual practices engaged in were generally according to preference, i.e. insertive for *panthis* and receptive for *kothis*, but these were, by no means, totally restrictive. The term *double-decker* was used for those who switched sexual roles.

In brief, identities, practices, and desires were not completely congruent, allowing for considerable flexibility and producing a complex picture of male-to-male sex that bears little relationship to that described in the literature for most other parts of the world.

## **Sampling**

The sample of 151 men who have sex with men (MSM) in Mysore (Karnataka) was obtained at 8 major locations around the city between March 2003 to April 2003. Interviews were conducted by the volunteers and Project Coordinator of Gelaya. Most men were interviewed at or near cruising sites, such as parks, public toilets, bus stands where male sexual partners are found, but a significant proportion (15%) were interviewed at the Gelaya drop-in centre also.

All Field workers were self-identified *kothis/dan gas*, and interviewed men through a questionnaire. In this sense the survey was not random, and a range of biases may have operated in interviewee selection. The field worker interviewed people he probably knew at particular sites.

## **Demographic Profile**

The men ranged in age from 18 to 55 years. 88 (58%) respondents were in age group of 22 to 30 years, which is most productive. Very few respondents lived alone whilst the majority lived with family members. 30% were married and 70 percent were unmarried. 28 percent were sexually active outside and 28% were also in a relationship with a male outside their marriage.

46 percent said they are currently not employed, where as 54% said they are. On income, 42% stated that they earned less than Rs. 1000 per month, and 36 percent said they earn somewhere between Rs. 1000 to Rs. 2000. 21% said they earn Rs. 2000 to Rs. 5000 and only 2% earned more than Rs. 5000 but less than Rs. 10000. Most of the respondents earn around Rs. 1000. The occupation of the respondents ranged from small business houses to office jobs to sales to coolie to sex work, anything (detailed annexed).

## **Identity**

The majority of respondents (36%) were self-identified *kothi*, with 8% labeled as *panthis*, 4% as *gay* and 50% self-identified double decker.

## **Sexual Activities**

A total number of 548 different male sexual partners were accessed by respondents in the previous week, with 1276 partner the previous month. It may well be that some respondents accessed partners that other respondents had accessed previously. week.

During the previous month, there were a total of 600 anal penetrative acts, of which 143 (24%)

of respondents reported insertive acts and 457 (76%) reported receptive sex

The majority of the penetrations were without condoms. Only 31% of insertive penetrative acts in the part month were covered with condoms, and 36% respondent stated that they used condoms. The irony is that the condom use is not 100% every time. The respondents who reported reasonable condom use were not consistent.

Oral sex was popular too, where the sexual act was either one of choice or because the location made it difficult for anal sex activity (a public space). During the preceding month a total of 403 oral sex acts were reported, where 74% respondents reported insertive oral sex acts, and 26% respondent reported receptive acts. Here several respondents. Condoms use for insertive oral sex was 31% and 28% for receptive oral sex.

In terms of relationships with male sex partners, the majority of respondents reported sex with strangers and friends, but kothi sex workers reported the majority of male partners as clients.

Meeting sex partners was primarily in public spaces like streets, parks, public toilets, bus stations etc.

The primary location where sex acts took place were public sites such as parks and the guest houses, friend's home, hostel, public toilets and cinema theatre.

The age of the majority of last male partner was between 25 to 30 years (51%), with 25% between 18-21 years. Age of 2<sup>nd</sup> last partner was also by and large the same.

In relationship to the marital status of last 5 partners, 39% respondents reported they did not know. Of the remaining (43%), respondents averaged in the answers to between 1 to 4 of their partners were married.

### **Condoms**

Availability of condoms were from medicine shops (88%), panwallah / neighbourhood shops (48%) are also very useful to buy condoms. Some (14%) also get condoms from friends.

The most popular brands are Kamasutra (42%), followed by Deluxe (8%), Kohinoor (6%) and then Nirodh (5%). 2% respondents also mentioned Govt. Condoms, perhaps they are mentioning subsidized/free condoms by Health and Family Welfare Ministry, Karnataka. 15%

respondents say they use any brand.

26% respondents don't use lubricant ever for anal sex. 42% respondents say they use lubricants every time. The most popular lubricant used is Saliva (86%), Oil (56%), Vaseline (23%), soap (15%) and even ghee/butter (8%). All these DO damage condoms while having sex. Only 2 % respondents reported use of K Y Jelly.

### **Sex Work**

53% respondents said that were paid by a man for sex. In the previous month, 34% respondents reportedly were paid more than 15 times, 44% were paid up to 5 times and 20% were paid up to 10 times. Again condom use was low.

Out of the total of 58 respondents reporting paid sex work in the last month, only 9 reported condom usage over their previous 5 paid sex acts. And condom usage was not every time, but averaged 1 out 3 times. Condoms were only used for anal sex. The biggest chunk, 52% said they never used condoms during last 5 sex acts.

Respondents who used condom also revealed that it was their partner 79% who initiated condom use and not themselves 21%.

For the majority, sex was priced between 10 - 100 rupees ( 54 respondents), whilst it revolved mostly around Rs. 30 depending on the negotiation skills.

7 respondents (5%) stated that they had paid for sex with another male. This is an indication that interviewers had not accessed a significant number of *panthis*, or clients, or even any from the general male population that use *kothis* for sex, for reasons that are do with

a) difficulties getting such men to talk, and

b) shame and shyness of such males. This is certainly an issue of concern, and ways and means will need to be found to collect more data on the male partners that respondents are accessing for sex.

## **Female Partners**

46 respondent said they are married, out of that only 41 responded to this section. Other 5 decided not to respond and we respected their decision. Out of these 41 respondents, 98% reported 1 to 5 times sexual contact with their wives in the last month, while 42% reported 6 to 10 sexual encounters with their wives in the previous month.

Almost all (98%) sex encounters with wives was for vaginal sex. There were also some 41% respondents having anal sex with wives and only 1 person having oral sex with his wife

In regard to other females, only 1 of the married respondents stated that he had sex with other female too in last month. However when we asked about details, 4 other people joined in too making a total of 5. All of them had vaginal sex where condom use was only 25%.

2 of 5 respondents could report on the marital status of the female sex workers, but 3 said they don't know.

## **STDs**

89 respondents (59%) reported some sort of symptoms. Multiple symptoms were also being reported. Not all of the reported symptoms reflect STDs of course, but indicate the level of risks in sexual activity.

Of those with current symptoms, 40% experiences pain while urinating, 35% itching or burning around anus, 38% pain while defecation, 38% bleeding while defecating, 28% blisters or sores inside mouth, and a big no. of 58% respondents complaining of experiencing pain during sex.

## **Treatment**

In terms of what these respondents are doing about their symptoms, 61% have done or will do nothing, 21% have gone or will go to the medicine shop / pharmacy for antibiotics, 18% will go or have gone to a private doctor, and only 1% will go to a government clinic. It should be noted that private doctor charge for their services, while government clinics do not.

Last time when they had some symptoms, they did almost the same.

## **HIV/AIDS knowledge and self-assessment**

54% of respondents had heard of HIV and/or AIDS, but 46% had not heard of HIV/AIDS. When we asked what have they heard, 75% respondents answered this section as well. 43% had heard that AIDS is a “deadly disease” or something similar.

Primary sources of information (poor or otherwise) were radio (70%), news paper 57%, and NGOs (6%), Gelaya (8%). One of the significant sources of information was through sex partners. Many respondents reported multiple sources of information.

In terms of self-assessment of risk, 65% couldn't grade this. Only 2% reported medium risk, whilst 33% of respondents reported small risk.

Lack of knowledge about the routes of infection was clearly obvious, where significant percentages of respondents were either clearly wrong, or just were not sure. For example, whilst 64% respondents stated they could get HIV/AIDS by sharing a needle whereas 29% were not sure of that, 67% respondents stated having anal sex without a condom can get them HIV while 28% not sure of that. Similarly, 57% respondents stated that they cannot get HIV by being penetrated by a man with a condom, while 37% were not sure of that. Similarly 20% of respondents stated that deep kissing can give them HIV, 52% not sure of that, 58% of the respondents stated that licking anus can give them HIV while 35% were not sure of this.

The information they had were very confusing.

## **Safer Sex**

Only 33% of respondents had heard of safer sex. To these respondents, while they had heard the term, 53% were not sure what it meant. 34% stated that it meant using condoms, while 8% thought it meant having sex with healthy people only. The level of information which is required for sustainable risk reductions were very low.

## **Partner notification**

Informing one's male partner(s) if one had an STI/HIV/AIDS was problematic. 10% stated they did not know, but 23% said no they would not, rest have no problems in informing. For female partners, it was more confusing. 31% said they didn't know, but 67% said no, while rest only 2% said they have no problems in informing their female partners. For wiives, 61% said no, they wouldn't. Rest 30% were not sure and only 9% said they would. The main factor here was the

issue of shame and publicness.

### **HIV antibody testing**

9 respondents had been tested for HIV antibodies, and out of these 3 were positive and rest 6 were negative. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> HIV test, only 1 person reported negative. Rest no one reported going for 2<sup>nd</sup> test.

Place of test was hospital 33% and private clinic 67%.

### **Preventive Counselling**

6 respondents stated that they had been counselled to prevent STI/HIV/AIDS before/after test counselling.

10% of respondents also stated that they have been counseled on STI/HIV/AIDS generally, but looking at these data, there seems to be some sort of problem in these counsellings.

### **Injecting Drugs**

Only 1 respondent reported the use of injecting drug where as 2 respondents reported their partner using injecting drug.

### **Seeking Help with Concerns about STI/HIV**

Most men stated they would seek help with their concerns about STI/HIV from Gelaya ( 43%). Whether this response arose because they knew that the interviewer was from Gelaya and that Gelaya was an MSM sexual health project is another matter. 81% stated they didn't know, and 55% said would visit Hospital/AIDS NGO.

### **Conclusions**

MSM in Mysore do not comprise an easily Identifiable or visible target group. There is very little gay identity and no commercialised gay venues. To insiders, male sex workers are easy to find, but, unlike female sex workers, relatively Invisible In most social spaces. Therefore, reaching these men through their own collectivities, a strategy that was very successful in Western nations, is not directly applicable here. The wives and other female partners of MSM comprise a very vulnerable group and will be particularly difficult to reach. Therefore, both for reasons of efficiency and cost-effectiveness, a peer-led process of developing collectivities must begin.

Gelaya has initiated that process.

Anal sex is a fairly common practice, placing them at high risk of STIs and HIV, especially when poorly lubricated and not protected by condoms. Anal STIs are not well understood by most doctors and there is no syndromic algorithm for anal infections.

Accessing adequate STD care is very difficult for the poor and uneducated within this group. Embarrassment and lack of money, coupled with providers' ignorance of MSM's sexual practices and the lack of a syndromic algorithm for anal STIs adds up to poor treatment and continuing infection.

Anal sex, has a high likelihood of producing anal tears. Any blood present during sex increases the risk of acquiring HIV, and this is probably enhanced by the presence of piles.

The considerable level of partner change and sexual networking evident in this data, coupled with the high levels of reported current anal STI symptoms, demonstrates the potential of this group of men and youth for a concentrated HIV epidemic.

Given their extensive sexual networks and contacts with women (over 30% of the men were married), they represent a core group for transmission. Whether their practices are approved of by society or not, they exist, appear to be numerous, and have a long history of tacit tolerance. Specialised services and sensitive outreach programmes will be required to address their needs.

### **Sexual behaviours and impact on sexual health concerns: a summary**

The *kothi/panthi* framework of male to male sex is the predominant pattern in Mysore. As seen above indications are of high levels of unprotected anal sex, higher levels of anal sex compared to oral sex, high levels of multiple partners, significant levels of possible symptoms of STIs, and a significant degree of untreated symptoms.

It was noted that saliva was the common lubricant used for penetration, but that a significant number of assessment participants also reported using oil-based lubricant as an aid to penetration, even with condoms. Only those who could afford it would use KY jelly, a water-based lubricant, and these were primarily gay-identified men, as well as those *kothis* who knew about KY jelly and who could afford the price.

While the majority of assessment participants had heard of HIV/AIDS, and at the same time personal risk assessment indicating that a large minority knew that they were at risk from STI/HIV infection, specific knowledge of HIV transmission was mixed and confused for a large minority, primarily *kothi*-identified males.

There was a clear gender-based division about partner notification where female partners of MSM were less likely to be informed of their partner's status than male partners.

From the range of interviews and the focus group discussions, there was a range of anecdotal reports of early sexual activities of many *kothis*, who often started their sexual life before the age of fourteen, and whose first sexual partner was usually a male relative such as a cousin or uncle.

Also being reported was a much broader context of male to male sex than only a *kothi/panthi* or gay dynamic and involved significant levels of males. Such sex encounters were going on in hotels amongst hotel staff and between hotel staff and guests, amongst street children, and street children and others, within a range of all male institutions such as boarding schools, madrassas, military establishments, hostels, prisons and so on. All sorts of males from across the spectrum of age, class and occupation were described as being involved in male to male sex, from police officers to beggars, from rich businessmen to movie extras, from rag pickers to truck drivers.

At the same time, the discussions generated a whole range of reasons why males have sex with males, from male to male desires, to "women don't do oral or anal sex", from protecting a girl's virginity to maintaining one's chastity, from "body heat" to "the anus is tighter than the vagina".

Most male sex workers were *kothi*-identified and primarily involved in anal sex as the receptive partner. The majority were unemployed and/or poor. A significant number were illiterate or poorly educated.

In such a situation where condom use was low, where anal sex was a common and regular practice, and where multiple partners was also common, the possibilities of STI/HIV transmission is high both between males and between MSM and any female partners they

have. Many *panthis* accessing males will also access females for sex, particularly female sex workers.

It is also clear that there are some distinct differences in regard to sexual health issues for gay-identified men and for *kothi*-identified males. It is also clear that the levels of risk for STI and HIV infection and transmission are considerable, and that this risk also affects female partners of MSM as well as male.

### **BCC Materials**

No appropriate BCC materials for MSM existed in Mysore.

### **STI treatment**

Discussions with 4 doctors willing to treat anal sex issues was limited. These doctors had been identified by the Local Focus Person as those to whom some of the gay-identified men and *kothis* would go to. However, the lack of understanding of both MSM frameworks and behaviours, as well as anal issues was clearly obvious. This included both private and government doctors. Most *kothis* did not access doctors but asked friends, "quacks", or received anti-biotics from pharmacies for "problems".

There is concern regarding the suitability or appropriateness of these doctors and clinics, particularly in terms of acceptance of *kothi* and/or gay identities, as well as the the stigmatisation of anal sex practices.

Two MSM friendly doctors with some experience of STI treatment were identified and brought to the attention of the Assessment Team members so that they could refer individuals.

### **NGO and Donor response**

Discussions by both the consultant and by this Investigator with a number of local NGOs working on HIV/AIDS issues, the State AIDS Control Society, International donor agencies indicated a high degree of support for an intervention amongst MSM in Mysore.

## Conclusions

In exploring male to male sex in Mysore this report highlights the following issues (in no specific order):

- There are significant levels of males who have sex with males where a *kothi/panthi* dynamic was the most prevalent framework of MSM in the city
- Some gay identity and organising does exist but this was very limited and middle class-based
- High rates of anal sex exist between males particularly *kothis/panthis* with lower rates for gay-identified men
- Significant levels of male commercial sex work exists in Mysore, where MSWs were primarily *kothi*-identified males
- High levels of partner change amongst *kothi*-identified males.
- High rates reported of possible STI symptoms
- Low levels of appropriate health seeking behaviours
- Inadequate appropriate STI treatment services regarding anal transmission of STIs
- No appropriate condoms available suitable for anal sex
- No affordable, accessible and appropriately packaged water-based lubricant available
- Many males who have sex with males begin their sexual activities in early adolescence, where their first sex partner is usually a male relative
- There are no appropriate education resources dealing with male to male sexual behaviours and/or anal sex
- Levels of appropriate knowledge of STIs/HIV/AIDS amongst males who have sex with males. particularly amongst gay-identified men
- Low levels of condom usage
- Many males who have sex with males will be married and many will get married
- Gay identified men on the other hand usually find sex partners among other gay-identified men,
- *Kothis* sexually access many different men across the society.
- They have extensive social networks with other *kothis*.
- They usually come from poor, marginalised and socially excluded communities.

If appropriate support and technical assistance is given, it is possible to develop a community building strategy amongst *kothis*, and use this emergent community as a means of education

and prevention intervention amongst *kothis* and their partners, where *kothis* can be mobilised on behalf of improving sexual health among MSM generally.

However it should also be recognised that *kothis* do not have the experience, knowledge, or skills to develop, implement and sustain their own sexual health intervention without considerable initial and on-going technical assistance.

### **Primary recommendations**

- funding provided towards developing a MSM-led sexual health intervention amongst MSM in Mysore
- technical assistance and support provided to *kothis* to develop community-building strategies in Mysore and to mobilise the resultant emergent community
- such technical assistance should also include skills and capacity building
- appropriate condoms for anal sex and sachets of water-based lubricant should be made available at affordable prices for the *kothi* MSM project to distribute
- it will probably be necessary that initial distribution be free towards building a users habit before social marketing is developed
- it is an urgent necessity that at STI treatment service be accessible to MSM which is confidential, accepting and of high quality
- it is necessary to ensure that the STI service provider has acceptable and appropriate knowledge of MSM issues and concerns, and of anal STIs and problems.
- enabling and empowering a *kothi*-led project to host its own clinic service should be considered as a priority
- a drop-in centre should be strategically located in Mysore to ensure maximum impact, outreach and support towards effective community-building and mobilising
- training and sensitisation programmes should be provided for local STI treatment centres, HIV/AIDS and sexual health NGOs and development agencies, as well as government services dealing with MSM issues
- appropriate and relevant BCC materials should be urgently developed for *kothis* and their partners using their own terminology, and distributed by themselves.
- the concept of peer education, community-building, and beneficiary led services is central to any effective and sustainable intervention strategy and this should be supported by any donor

**World Health Organisation definition of sexual health**

*the integration of physical, emotional, intellectual and social aspects of sexuality in a way that positively enriches and promotes personality, communication and love.*

## ANNEX 1

### Workshop Agenda

- Day One:**                    **Setting the context**  
what is sex?  
sexual behaviours  
learning about sex  
sexual stereotypes  
cultural and social expectations  
labelling  
stigmatisation, denial and invisibility
- Day Two:**                    **The sexual body**  
feedback from day one  
knowing your own body  
knowing a woman's body  
talking sex  
the practice of sex
- Day Three:**                **Males who have sex with males**  
feedback from day two  
what is your sexual experience and history?  
desire of semen discharge?  
local structures of male to male sex in...  
male sex work  
mapping the city  
women and wives
- Day Four:**                **Sexual health: part one**  
feedback from day three  
what is sexual health?  
knowledge and attitudes  
what are STDs?  
what is HIV and AIDS?  
STD/HIV transmission  
spreading the virus  
who is vulnerable?
- Day Five:**                **Sexual health: part two**  
feedback from day four  
what are risk behaviours?  
personal risk analysis  
personal and social impact of STDs/HIV  
changing sexual practice  
practising safer sex  
all about condoms and lubricant  
psychosexual issues
- Day Six:**                    **The assessment**  
feedback from day five  
assessment methodologies  
the questionnaire

the taped interview  
focus groups  
observational analysis  
evaluation and closing

## ANNEX 2

### Mysore Data

#### 1. YOURSELF

##### Q. 1 Age of the respondents (N= 151)

Age	Respondents	%
18 - 21	527	17.88
22 - 30	88	58.28
31 - 40	30	19.87
Above 40	4	2.65

##### Q. 2 Marital status of the respondents (N= 151)

Category	Respondents	%
Married	46	30.46
Unmarried	105	69.54
Not married but in a relationship with a male	99	65.56
Married & in a relationship with a male	43	28.48
Active outside marriage	43	28.48
Others	9	5.96

##### Q. 3 Currently employed? (N= 149)

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	81	54.36
No	68	45.64

##### Q. 4 Occupation of the respondents (N= 123)

Category	Respondents	%
Sex work	5	4.07
Student	16	13.01
Coolie	14	11.38
Tailor	2	1.63
Unemployed	16	13.01
Factory worker	4	3.25
Salesman	8	6.50
Business	17	13.82
Employee	2	1.63
Cook	2	1.63
Accountant	2	1.63
Farmer	3	2.44
Hotel boy	2	1.63
Helper	2	1.63
Sales representative	2	1.63
Pastry shop	2	1.63
Others	24	19.52

### Q. 5 Monthly income of respondents (N=118)

Category	Respondents	%
Below 1000 Rupees	49	41.53
1000 To 2000	42	35.59
2000 To 5000	25	21.19
5000 To 10,000	2	1.69
Above 10,000 Rupees	0	0

### Q. 6 Self sexual labeling by respondents (N=151)

Category	Respondents	%
Kothi	54	35.76
Panthi	12	7.95
Double - Decker	76	50.33
Heterosexual	0	0
Homosexual/gay	6	3.97
Others	3	1.99

## 2. SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH OTHER MALES

### Q. 7. Sexual activities with males (N= 143)

Category	
No. of males have had sex with in last week	548
No. of males have had sex with in last month	1276
No. of respondents used condom for sex	31
No. of males used condom for sex in last week	68
No. of males used condom for sex in last month	33

### Q. 8 Anal sex acts in last month (N=133)

Category	
Insertive sex acts	143
Receptive sex acts	457
No. of respondents who used condoms	55
Insertive sex acts with condoms	44
Receptive sex acts with condoms	164

### Q. 9 Oral sex acts to ejaculation in last month (N= 111)

Category	
No. of Insertive sex acts	299
No. of Receptive sex acts	104
No. of respondents who used condoms	25
Insertive sex acts with condoms	93
Receptive sex acts with condoms	29

**Q. 10 Relationship with sex partners in last month (N=148)**

Category	No. of Times
Friends	248
Strangers	618
Neighbours	56
Male Sex Worker	63
Relatives	29
Servants	16
Paying Clients	336
Others	6

**Q. 11 Places of meeting with males you had sex with in the last month (N=148)**

Category	No. of Times
Bar / Club	86
Street	334
Personal home	49
Park	249
Friend's home	41
Toilets	151
Railway station	21
Guest house	68
Neighborhood	29
Health club	6
Bazaar	29
Cinema	59
Hotels	27
Bus Stations	215
Others	22

**Q. 12 Places of sex acts (N=148)**

Category	No. of times
Your home	62
Friend's home	119
Park / crusting area	366
Hotel/guest house	326
Hostel	53
Cinema/theatre	100
Bar / club	28
Public toilet	92
In a car	36
In a train	12
Train / bus depot	89
Others	55

**Q. 13A Age of last male sex partner (N=145)**

Category	Respondents	%
18-21	36	24.83
22-24	18	12.41
25-30	74	51.03
31-40	17	11.72
41-50	0	0
Above 50	0	0

**Q. 13B Age of second last male sex partner (N=136)**

Category	Respondents	%
18-21	16	11.76
22-24	13	9.56
25-30	58	42.65
31-40	42	30.88
41-50	6	4.41
Above 50	1	0.74

**Q. 14 Last 5 male sex partners' marital status (N=138)**

Category	Respondents	%
All were unmarried	21	15.22
1 was unmarried	19	13.77
2 were unmarried	25	18.12
3 were unmarried	10	7.25
4 were unmarried	5	3.63
5 were unmarried	24	2.90
Don't know	54	39.13

**Q. 15 Availability of condoms from ... (N=111)**

Category	Respondents	%
Pharmacy/medicine shop	98	88.29
Family planning clinic	4	3.60
Shops / Panwallas	53	47.75
MSM projects	1	0.90
Social worker	0	0
AIDS NGO	5	4.50
Doctors	0	0
Vending machines	2	1.80
Friends	15	13.51
STD clinics	1	0.90
Sexual partners	10	9.01
Others	6	5.41

**Q. 16 Brand of condom (N=103)**

Category	Respondents	%
Any brand	15	14.56
Don't use	43	41.75
Kamasutra	18	17.48
Your one	3	2.91
Deluxe	8	7.77
Nirodh	5	4.85
Kohinoor	6	5.83
Moods	2	1.94
Govt. condom	2	1.94
Local	1	0.97

**Q. 17 Reasons for not using condom (N=124)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Don't carry condoms with me	98
Not satisfying	82
Hard to dispose	12
Never used before	45
To shameful to buy/use	80
Don't know where to get condoms	5
Am not sick	68
Partner not sick	51
Not easy to use	6
Main partner is faithful	21
Others	4

**Q. 18 Do you have a condom now? (N=148)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	6	4.05
No	142	95.95

**Q. 19 Can we see your condoms? (N=132)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	53	40.15
No	79	59.85

**Q. 20 Use of lubricant for anal sex (N=144)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
None of the time	37	25.69
Some of the time	47	32.64
Every of the time	60	41.67

**Q. 21 Type of lubricant used for anal sex (N=133)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Oil	75	56.39
Ghee/Butter	10	7.52
Saliva	114	85.71
Vaseline	30	22.56
KY Jelly	3	2.26
Soap	20	15.04
Others	1	0.75

### **3. PAID SEX**

**Q. 22 Have you ever been paid by a man for sex (N=146)**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	77	52.74
No	69	47.26

**Q. 23A No. of times you have been paid by men for sex in last week (N=72)**

Category	Respondents	%
1 - 5 times	49	68.06
6 - 10 times	3	4.17
11 - 15 times	0	0.00
More than 15	20	27.78

**Q. 23B No. of times you have been paid by men for sex in last month (N=71)**

Category	Respondents	%
1 - 5 times	31	43.66
6 - 10 times	14	19.72
11 - 15 times	2	2.82
More than 15	24	33.80

**Q. 24A Pattern of paid sex in last week (N=18)**

Category	
No. of anal insertive sex acts	12
No. of respondents doing anal insertive sex acts	6
No. of anal receptive sex acts	144
No. of respondents doing anal receptive sex acts	12
No. of oral insertive sex acts	140
No. of respondents doing anal insertive sex acts	11
No. of oral receptive sex acts	15
No. of respondents doing oral receptive sex acts	7
No. of masturbation sex acts	4
No. of respondents doing masturbation	2
No. of other type of sex acts	0
No. respondents doing other type of sex acts	0

**Q. 24B Pattern of sex when paid for sex in last month (N=9)**

Category	
No. of anal insertive sex acts	23
No. of respondents doing anal insertive sex acts	2
No. of anal receptive sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing anal receptive sex acts	0
No. of oral insertive sex acts	20
No. of respondents doing oral insertive sex acts	1
No. of oral receptive sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing oral insertive sex acts	0
No. of oral receptive sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing masturbation	0
No. of other type of sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing other type of sex acts	0

**Q. 25 No. of times condoms used in last five paid sex acts (N=58)**

Category	Respondents	%
Never	30	51.72
Single time	4	6.90
Two times	6	10.34
Three times	6	10.34
Four Times	3	5.17
Five Times	9	15.52

**Q. 26 Who initiated condom use? (N=42)**

Category	Respondents	%
Your Self	9	21.43
Your Partner	33	78.57

**Q. 27 Last time how much were you paid for sex by a man (N=73)**

Category	Respondents	%
1 - 10 Rupees	0	0.00
11 - 20	8	10.96
21 - 30	19	26.03
31 - 40	8	10.96
41 - 50	21	28.77
51 - 100	12	16.44
101 - 150	0	0.00
151 - 200	2	2.74
Above 200	3	4.11

**Q. 28 Ever paid for sex with another male? (N=140)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	7	5.00
No	133	95.00

**Q. 29A No. of times you paid for sex with a male in last week (N=6)**

Category	Respondents
1-3	4
4-6	0
7-10	0
11-15	0
16-20	1
21-25	0
Above 25	1

**Q. 29B No. of times you paid for sex with a male in last month (N=6)**

Category	Respondents
1 to 3	2
4 to 6	2
7 to 10	0
11 to 15	0
16 to 20	0
21 to 25	0
26 to 30	1
31 to 40	0
41 to 50	0
Above 50	1

**Q. 30 Pattern of sex when paid for sex in last month (N=5)**

Category	No. of Times
No. of anal insertive sex acts	5
No. of respondents doing anal insertive sex acts	3
No. of anal receptive sex acts	4
No. of respondents doing anal receptive sex acts	2
No. of oral insertive sex acts	5
No. of respondents doing oral insertive sex acts	3
No. of oral receptive sex acts	101
No. of respondents doing oral receptive sex acts	2
No. of masturbation sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing masturbation	0
No. of other type of sex acts	0
No. of respondents doing other type of sex acts	0

**Q. 31 No. of times not used condom when paid for sex during this time (N=4)**

Category	Respondents
1 - 3	3
4 - 6	1
7 - 10	0
11 - 15	0
Above 15	0

**Q. 32 Last time how much did you paid for sex with a male (N=5)**

Category	Respondents
1 - 10 Rupees	0
11 - 20	0
21 - 30	2
31 - 40	0
41 - 50	2
51 - 100	1
101 - 150	0
151 - 200	0
Above 200	0

**Q. 33 Age of last male you paid to have sex with? (N=5)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
18 - 21	2
22 - 24	2
25 - 30	1
31- 40	0
Above 40	0

**4. SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH FEMALES**

**A. Married Males**

**Q. 34 No. of times you have sex with your wife in the last month (N=41)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
1 - 5	20	48.78
6 - 10	17	41.46
11 - 15	1	2.44
16 - 20	2	4.88
Above 20	1	2.44

**Q. 35 Pattern of sex with your wife in the last month (N=41)**

<b>Category</b>	
No. of times of vaginal sex act	278
No. of respondents doing vaginal sex	40
No. of times of vaginal sex acts with condom	15
No. of respondents doing vaginal sex with condom	2
No. of times of anal sex act	17
No. of respondents doing anal sex	2
No. of times of anal sex with condom	0
No. of respondents doing anal sex with condom	0
No. of times of oral sex act	1
No. of respondents doing oral sex	1
No. of times of oral sex with condom	0
No. of respondents doing oral sex with condom	0

**B. All Males**

**Q. .36 No. of females (not wife) have you had sex with in the last month ? (N=1)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
None	0
One	1
Two	0
Three.	0
Four	0
Five	0
Above Five	3

**Q. 37 Pattern of sex with females (not wife) in the last month (N=5)**

<b>Category</b>	
No. of times of vaginal sex act	16
No. of respondents doing vaginal sex	5
No. of times of vaginal sex acts with condom	4
No. of respondents doing vaginal sex with condom	2
No. of times of anal sex act	0
No. of respondents doing anal sex	0
No. of times of anal sex with condom	0
No. of respondents doing anal sex with condom	0
No. of times of oral sex act	0
No. of respondents doing oral sex	0
No. of times of oral sex with condom	0
No. of respondents doing oral sex with condom	0
No. of times of masturbation	1
No. of respondents doing masturbation	1
No. of times of other sex with act	0
No. of respondents doing other sex act	0
No. of times of other sex with condom	0
No. of respondents doing other sex with condom	0

**Q. 38 Relationship with female sex partner to yourself (N=5)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>No. of Times</b>
Friends	2
Relatives	0
Strangers	7
Servants	0
Neighbors	0
Female sex workers	4
Others	0

**Q. 39 Last 5 female sex partners' marital status (N=5)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
All unmarried	2
One was married	0
Two were married	0
Three were married	0
Four were married	0
All were married	0
Don't know	3

**Q. 40 No. of times condoms used while having sex with last five female sex partners (N=4)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
No time	1
One time	1
Two times	2
Three times	0
Four times	0
Every time	0

**Q. 41 Have you paid for sex with a female in last month? (N=6)**

Category	Respondents
Yes	3
No	3

**Q. 42 Pattern of sex, when paid for it with 5 last females (N=5)**

Category	
No. of respondents who had anal sex	1
No. of times did anal sex acts	6
No. of respondents who had oral sex	0
No. of times did oral sex acts	0
No. of respondents who had vaginal sex	4
No. of times did vaginal sex acts	45
No. of respondents who had masturbation sex	1
No. of times did masturbation	1
No. of respondents who had other type of sex	0
No. of times did other type of sex acts	0

**Q. No.43A No. of times condoms used in last five paid sex acts with (N=2)**

Category	Respondents
Never	1
Single time	0
Two times	1
Three times	0
Four times	0
Five times	0

**Q. No.43B Who initiated condom use? (N=2)**

Category	Respondents
Your self	0
Your Partner	2

## **5. Your Health**

**Q. 44 Currently having these symptoms (N=89)**

Category	Respondents	%
Pain while urinating	36	40.45
Itching or burning around anus	31	34.83
Pus or discharge from penis	7	7.87
Pus or discharge in stools	9	10.11
Pain upon defecation	34	38.20
Bleeding when defecating	34	38.20
Genital sores	11	12.36
Itchy rash on genitals	6	6.74
Blisters or sores inside mouth	25	28.09
Pain during sex	52	58.43
Others	4	4.49

**Q. 45 What are you doing to treat these symptoms (N=128)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Nothing	78	60.94
Medical shop	27	21.09
Private doctor	23	17.97
Hospital	1	0.78
Friends/Relatives	11	8.59
Street 'Quack'	0	0.00
Other clinic	3	2.34
Others	0	0.00

**Q. 46 What did you do the last time you had any of these symptoms (N=139)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Nothing	67	48.20
Medical shop	41	29.50
Private doctor	35	25.18
Hospital	2	1.44
Friends/relatives	18	12.95
Street 'quack'	1	0.72
Other clinic	2	1.45
Others	0	0.00

**Q. 47 Ever heard of HIV and/or AIDS? (N=151)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	81	53.64
No	70	46.36

**Q. 48 What have you heard about HIV / AIDS (N114)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Using a condom	10	8.78
Use tested blood	5	4.39
Use disposable syringe	4	3.51
It's a deadly disease	12	10.53
Incurable disease	19	16.67
People die of it	3	2.63
There is no medicine	5	4.39
Bad disease	10	8.78
Dangerous disease	27	23.68
Safe sex	7	6.14
Don't know	31	27.19
Others	6	5.26

**Q. 49 Sources of information on HIV/AIDS (N=98)**

Category	Respondents	%
Doctor	5	5.10
Radio	69	70.41
Social Worker	5	5.10
NGO	6	6.12
Newspaper	56	57.14
Leaflets	3	3.06
Posters	1	1.02
Hospital	10	10.20
Clinic	0	0.00
Family member	4	4.08
Local MSM projects	8	8.16
Friends	56	57.14
Sex partners	17	17.35
Others	7	7.14

**Q. 50A What risk do you personally think you have of getting HIV/AIDS? (N=143)**

Category	Respondent	%
Large	0	0.00
Medium	3	2.10
Small	47	32.87
I do not know	93	65.03

**Q. 50B What are the reasons for your answer? (N=124)**

Category	Respondent	%
I am healthy	58	46.78
Use a condom	10	8.06
My partners are healthy	6	4.84
I and my partner are healthy	2	1.61
Thanks for enquiring about my health	2	1.61
Don't have sex with everybody	1	0.81
Don't do sex everyday with men	1	0.81
Don't use a condom	1	0.81
Don't know	36	29.03
Others	9	7.26

**Q. 51A You can get HIV from sharing a needle (N=114)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	73	64.04
No	8	7.02
Not Sure	33	28.95

**Q. 51B You can get HIV from being penetrated by a man without a condom (N=112)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	75	66.96
No	6	5.36
Not Sure	31	27.68

**Q. 51C You can get HIV from being penetrated by a man with a condom (N=101)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	6	5.94
No	58	57.43
Not Sure	37	36.63

**Q. 51D You can get HIV from penetrating a woman without a condom (N=106)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	83	78.30
No	1	0.94
Not Sure	22	20.75

**Q. 51E You can get HIV from penetrating a woman with a condom (N=100)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	3	3.00
No	64	64.00
Not Sure	33	33.00

**Q. 51F You can get HIV from only having a sexual contact with a woman (N=98)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	20	20.41
No	21	21.43
Not Sure	57	58.16

**Q. 51G You can get HIV from sucking a penis (N=104)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	46	44.23
No	15	14.42
Not Sure	43	41.35

**Q. 51H You can get HIV from swallowing semen (N=107)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	59	55.14
No	7	6.54
Not Sure	41	38.32

**Q. 51I You can get HIV from licking a vagina (N=99)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	56	56.57
No	8	8.08
Not Sure	35	35.35

**Q. 51J You can get HIV from masturbating someone (N=98)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	5	5.10
No	52	53.06
Not Sure	41	41.84

**Q. 51K You can get HIV from rubbing bodies (N=98)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	5	5.10
No	59	60.20
Not Sure	34	34.69

**Q. 51L You can get HIV from thigh sex (N=98)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	7	7.14
No	51	52.04
Not Sure	40	40.82

**Q. 51M You can get HIV from licking anus (N=101)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	59	58.42
No	7	6.93
Not Sure	35	34.65

**Q. 51N You can get HIV from deep kissing (N=91)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	18	19.78
No	26	28.57
Not Sure	47	51.65

**Q. 52 What ways you can prevent getting or passing HIV (N=146)**

Category	Respondents	%
Use condom	77	52.74
Use tested blood	5	3.43
Use disposable syringe	6	4.11
Need more information about HIV	6	4.11
Reduce number of partners	2	1.37
Safe sex	1	0.69
We should be careful	1	0.69
I have healthy partner	1	0.69
Have sex with healthy people	1	0.69
Have anal sex with condom	1	0.69
Don't Know	41	28.08
Others	3	2.05

**Q. 53 Ever heard of safer sex ? (N=126)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	41	32.54
No	85	67.46

**Q. 54 What have you heard about safer sex (N=116)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Use condom	40	34.48
I would like to know more	5	4.31
Have sex with healthy people only	8	6.90
Reduce number of partners	1	0.86
You should teach me	1	0.86
Take prevention for health	1	0.86
Don't Know	61	52.59
Others	2	1.72

**Q. 55A Can you reduce the risk of getting STDs or HIV/AIDS by always using a condom for anal or vaginal sex (N=145)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	83	57.24
No	4	2.76
Do not know	58	40.00

**Q. 55B Can you reduce the risk of getting STDs or HIV/AIDS by only doing non-penetrative sex (N=118)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	53	44.92
No	5	4.24
Do not know	60	50.85

**Q. 55C Can you reduce the risk of getting STDs or HIV/AIDS by reducing the number of sexual partners (N=133)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	57	42.86
No	7	5.26
Do not know	69	51.88

**Q. 56 Can you reduce the risk of getting STDs or HIV/AIDS by other ways (N=135)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Use a condom	84	62.22
Single sex partner	4	2.96
Reduce number of partners	5	3.70
Like to know more	3	2.22
Have sex with healthy men only	1	0.74
I don't know	37	27.41
Others	2	1.48

**Q. 57A Will you tell your male sex partner, if you were experiencing symptoms of STDs / HIV / AIDS (N= 147)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	100	68.03
No	33	22.45
Do not know	14	9.52

**Q. 57B Will you tell your female sex partner, if you were experiencing symptoms of STDs/HIV/AIDS? (N=42)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	1	2.38
No	28	66.67
Do not know	13	30.95

**Q. 57C Will you tell your wife, if you were experiencing symptoms of STDs/HIV/AIDS? (N= 44)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	4	9.09
No	27	61.36
Do not know	13	29.55

**Q. 58A Have you ever been tested for HIV/AIDS? (N= 148)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	11	7.43
No	137	92.57

**Q. 58B HIV Test Results? (N=9)**

Category	Respondents
Negative	9
Positive	3

**Q. 58C Place of HIV Test (N=9)**

Category	Respondents
Hospital	3
Private Clinic	6
Other Places	

**Q. 59 Were you counselled before/after taking the test? (N= 100)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	6	6.00
No	94	94.00

**Q. 60 In the last two years have you been counselled on STD\HIVAIDS? (N= 105)**

Category	Respondents	%
Yes	10	9.52
No	95	90.48

**Q. 61A Have you ever injected drugs in the last year? (N=139)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	1	0.72
No	138	99.28

**Q. 61B Has your sex partner ever injected drugs in the last year? (N=87)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	2	2.30
No	85	97.70

**Q. 62 Where would you prefer to go to get help if you were worried about STDs or AIDS? (N=140)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Government hospital	20	14.29
AIDS NGO	57	40.71
Religion	1	0.71
Private doctor	9	6.43
Local MSM Projects	60	42.86
Other clinic workers	0	0.00
Peer educator	3	2.14
Do not know or other	114	81.43

## COMPARATIVE REPORT BETWEEN KOTHI, PANTHI, DOUBLE – DECKER, HETEROSEXUAL, HOMOSEXUAL, GAY & OTHERS

For Question No. 7, 8, 9, 47 and 53

### Q.7A Sexual activities with males in last week (N= 145)

Category	Respondents	No. of sex acts	No. of sex acts with Condom
Kothi	51	211	4
Panthi	11	36	3
Double-decker	74	269	55
Heterosexual	0	0	0
Homosexual/Gay	6	14	3
Other	3	8	2

### Q. 7B Sexual activities with males in last month (N= 142)

Category	Respondents	No. of sex acts	No. of sex acts with Condom
Kothi	52	525	26
Panthi	10	79	5
Double-decker	71	587	98
Heterosexual	0	0	0
Homosexual/Gay	6	54	6
Other	3	26	5

### Q. 8 Anal sex acts in last month (N= 133)

Category	Respondents	No. of sex acts	No. of sex acts with Condom
Kothi-Insertive	8	20	2
Kothi - Receptive	48	216	44
Panthi - Insertive	8	21	9
Panthi - Receptive	2	14	4
Double-decker- Insertive	36		26
Double-decker- Receptive	63	194	91
Homosexual/Gay - Insertive	5	9	0
Homosexual/Gay - Receptive	5	27	7
Other - Insertive	3	6	0
Other - Receptive	3	6	0

**Q. 9 Oral sex acts in last month (N= 109)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>No. of sex acts</b>	<b>No. of sex acts with Condom</b>
Kothi-Insertive	38	135	44
Kothi - Receptive	2	11	5
Panthi - Insertive	3	4	0
Panthi - Receptive	6	19	4
Double-decker- Insertive	49	134	46
Double-decker- Receptive	27	61	17
Homosexual/Gay - Insertive	4	16	3
Homosexual/Gay – Receptive	2	6	3
Other - Insertive	3	5	0
Other - Receptive	3	5	0

**Q. 47 Ever heard of HIV / AIDS? (N= 151)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
Kothi- Yes	27
Kothi- No	27
Panthi- Yes	7
Panthi- No	5
Double-Decker – Yes	42
Double-Decker – No	34
Homosexual/Gay- Yes	4
Homosexual/Gay- No	2
Others-Yes	1
Others-No	2

**Q. 53 Ever heard of safer sex? (N= 126)**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Respondents</b>
Kothi- Yes	8
Kothi- No	38
Panthi- Yes	3
Panthi- No	4
Double-Decker – Yes	26
Double-Decker – No	40
Homosexual/Gay- Yes	4
Homosexual/Gay- No	2
Others-Yes	0
Others-No	1

