

## TO STUDY THE AWARENESS OF HIV/AIDS AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY LEVEL STUDENTS

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### ABSTRACT

Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome, AIDS, as it has come to be known through its acronym, is one of the most dreaded disease that is posing a challenge to mankind during the last quarter of this twentieth century. There is no effective cure or vaccine for the disease, awareness remains the only safeguard for its prevention. This survey was conducted to assess the level of awareness about HIV/AIDS among the higher secondary level students of Tonk district. A total of 200 pupils from different Govt. and Private Higher secondary schools of Tonk, Newai, Todaraisingh, Uniyara, Deoli and Malpura Blocks were surveyed to assess and compare their awareness regarding, HIV/AIDS. A self-administered questionnaire was used. Majority of the students were aware of various aspects of HIV/AIDS.

**KEYWORDS:** Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome, Higher Secondary Level Students Arts and Science Stream

Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome, AIDS, as it has come to be known through its acronym, is one of the most dreaded disease that is posing a challenge to mankind during the last quarter of this twentieth century. AIDS is caused by a retrovirus called human immuno deficiency virus (HIV) which is a type of human T cell leukemia lymphoma virus (HTLV).

Transmission of HIV infection occurs by one of the following routes:-

- Sexual contact
- Parenteral transmission :-
- Intravenous drug abusers by sharing needles, syringes etc.
- Recipients of blood and blood products.
- Perinatal transmission:-
- HIV infection occurs from infected mother to the new born during pregnancy transplacentally or in immediate post-partum period through contamination with maternal blood, infected amniotic fluid or breast milk.
- There is no effective cure or vaccine for the disease, awareness remains the only safeguard for its prevention.

**Different types of studies have been conducted on HIV/AIDS such as:**

- Burt S. (2001) "HIV/AIDS related Discrimination Stigmatization and Denial (DSD)."
- Nagda B.L. "Socio Demographic aspect of HIV/AIDS awareness in rural areas of Rajasthan."

**Objective:** The objective of the study to know the awareness of HIV/AIDS among the higher secondary level students.

- Faculty wise – Arts and Science

### **Hypothesis**

- There is no significant difference between Arts and Science students in respect of their awareness about AIDS.
- On the basis of subject area there is no significant difference between the Arts and Science students in respect of their awareness of AIDS.

### **Terms Defined**

- **AIDS:** Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome. AIDS, as it has come to be known through its acronym, AIDS is caused by a retrovirus called human immuno deficiency virus (HIV) which is a type of human T cell leukemia lymphoma virus (HTLV).
- **Faculty wise:** in the present study faculty wise means Arts and Science Stream.

**Method of the study:** The method used by the researcher in study is the Descriptive Method.

**Population:** The population of the study is the higher secondary school students of Tonk district.

**Sample:** The study was conducted during 2008-09 among a randomly selected 200 pupils from higher secondary school

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students of Tonk district. The sample consisted their field of specialization (Arts and Science).

**Variables**

- A. **Dependent variable** – Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
- B. **Independent variables** - Gender, Types of schools, Region (rural and urban), Blocks, Content areas.

**Nature of Data:** Data is quantitative in nature.

**Source of Data:** The Source of Data is primary in the study.

**Tool:** Self-administered questionnaire was administered in this study. It consists of 30 objectives type question.

**Statistics used:** The researcher used quantitative analysis namely percentage analysis and graphical presentation.

**Analysis and Interpretation:**

**Hypothesis-1-** There is no significant difference between Arts and Science students in respect of their awareness about AIDS.

**Table 1: AIDS awareness score of different samples categorized on the basis of Faculty in tabular form**

Class Interval Sub Sample		40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100
<b>No. of Students in %</b>	Arts	2.50%	9.10%	19.10%	39.10%	29.10%	0.80%
	Science	-	7.50%	8.70%	37.50%	46.20%	-

**Hypothesis 2-** On the basis of subject area there is no significant difference between the Arts and Science students in respect of their awareness of AIDS.

**Table 2: The difference between the AIDS awareness scores of sub samples divided on the basis of their subject areas**

Subject Area		Introduction	Causes	Symptoms	Precautions	Programmes
<b>No. of Students in %</b>	Arts	79.00%	90.00%	36.00%	16.00%	67.00%
	Science	84.00%	82.00%	36.00%	20.00%	71.00%

**Summary of research findings:**

1. The level of awareness about AIDS differs between arts and science students. The science students have a higher level of awareness than the arts student.
2. On the basis of subject area different faculties have higher level of awareness about introduction and causes of HIV/AIDS as compare to symptoms and precautions and programs.
3. On the basis of subject area different faculties have higher level of awareness about Introduction and causes of HIV/AIDS as compare to symptoms and precautions. Awareness about programs is normal.

4. On the basis of subject area students of science faculty have higher level of awareness about HIV/AIDS as compare to students of arts faculty.

**Educational Implications**

- This study explains how much awareness students have about HIV/AIDS, as well as how to provide information related to AIDS in different areas, will help.
- This study will help the teachers to reach the information and importance related to HIV AIDS to the students.

**Delimitations**

1. Research work is done in Tonk district of Rajasthan only.
2. The research includes six blocks of the district Tonk – Tonk, Newai, Uniyara, Deoli, Malpura and Todaraisingh.

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