

# Homo-bisexuality and risk-taking during last reported sexual intercourse with a man or a woman in Senegal

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## Method

- 501 MSM recruited through the snowball sampling method – recruitment by MSM leaders:
  - 306 in Dakar
  - 95 in Saint-Louis
  - 100 in Thiès/Mbour
- Standardized questionnaire:
  - Socio-demographic characteristics
  - Sexual behaviors
  - Detailed questions about the last sexual intercourse with a man and the last sexual intercourse with a woman
- Bisexuality is frequent: 87% of MSM ever had sex with a woman in their life.  $E \sqcup H \lor$

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- Allows to show relations between risk-taking and:
  - socio-demographic characteristics of *ego*
  - Information level about HIV and STI, built on:
    - Knowledge of a place to be tested
    - Participation in a MSM specific prevention action
    - Membership of a MSM NGO



- Allows to show relations between risk-taking and:
  - socio-demographic characteristics of *ego*
  - Information level about HIV and STI
  - type of homo-bisexuality:
    - Homo (regular &, no sexual partner ?)
    - Homo, Hetero occ. (regular &, occasional ?)
    - ◆ Bi (regular partners ♂ and ♀)
    - ◆ Hetero, Homo occ. (regular ♀, occasional ♂)
    - Homo/Bi occ. (no regular partner)

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- Allows to show relations between risk-taking and:
  - socio-demographic characteristics of *ego*
  - Information level about HIV and STI
  - type of homo-bisexuality
  - sex of the partner (male or female)
  - Iocation of the sexual intercourse
  - type of relationship:
    - first time, not in love with an occasional partner
    - middle not in love
    - middle in love
    - >1 year, in love with a regular partner

Larmarange et al. • ICASA 2008 • MSM and risks during last sexual intercourse in Senegal

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  - socio-demographic characteristics of *ego*
  - Information level about HIV and STI
  - type of homo-bisexuality
  - sex of the partner (male or female)
  - Iocation of the sexual intercourse
  - type of relationship
  - age of the partner

## Last sexual intercourse with an man

- Main factor: location of the sexual intercourse
  - 65% of penetrations are unprotected if sex outside (beaches, public gardens, public toilettes...)
    - N=31  $\rightarrow$  no other significant factor.
  - 22% of penetrations are unprotected if sex inside (at home or hotels)
- Sex outside is an important risk factor whatever the type of relationship, age of ego, age of the partner, awareness of HIV/AIDS, ...



## Risk-factors with a man (sex inside)

- Main factor: awareness to HIV (p<0,001)
  - Doesn't know where to be tested: 38% of unprotected sex
  - Knows where to be tested (A): 34%
  - (A) + Has participated in a MSM prevention (B): 16%
  - (A) + (B) + Is a member of a MSM NGO (C): 9%
- Other significant factors:
  - Age of *ego* (p=0.081):
    - more unprotected sex among 18-19 (32%) and 35+ (35%)
  - Age of partner (p=0.058):
    - 62% of risk if partner is 19 or less
  - Activity (p=0.007):
    - no activity: 39% / students: 25% / other professions: 22% frequent professions among MSM: 9%

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## **Risk-factors with a man (sex inside)**

- No statistically significant (logistic regression):
  - Site
  - Living with his family
  - Type of homo-bisexuality
  - Type of relationship
    - In love or not
    - Regular or occasional partner
    - Duration of the relation



## Last sexual intercourse with a woman

- Main factor: marital status of the partner
  - 97% of unprotected vaginal sex if the partner is the <u>spouse</u>
    - N=30
    - Child desire  $\rightarrow$  not possible to use a condom
  - 36% of unprotected vaginal sex if the partner is <u>not the spouse</u>
- Similar results have been described in anthropological interviews.



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## Risk-factor with a woman (spouses excluded)

- Main factor: **age of the partner** (p=0.004)
  - 15 years or less: 75% of unprotected sex
  - 16-19 years old: 36%
  - 20-24 years old: 29%
  - 25 years or more: 19%
- Second factor: **awareness to HIV** (p=0.038)
  - Doesn't know where to be tested: 48% of unprotected sex
  - Knows where to be tested (A): 41%
  - (A) + Has participated in a MSM prevention (B): 25%
  - (A) + (B) + Is a member of a MSM NGO (C): 31%

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### Risk-factor with a woman (spouses excluded)

- No statistically significant (logistic regression):
  - Age of *ego* 
    - But same profile than sex with a man (more risks among the youngest and the oldest)
  - Instruction level
    - But risks decrease (from 49 to 29%) when instruction increases
  - Activity
    - But same profile than sex with a man
  - Type of homo-bisexuality
  - Type of relationship
    - But risks decrease when the relation is longer



# Conclusion

- The two main factors are not characteristics of *ego*:
  - Sex with a man: location of intercourse (context)
  - Sex with a woman: type of the relation : spouse or not
  - $\rightarrow$  it's necessary to take these dimensions into account.
- Specific prevention actions are effective to reduce HIV risks, with men but also with women.
- Bisexual practices are frequent and risk factors are not the same → these issues should be integrated in future prevention programs.



# **Thank you** for your attention





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