

It takes a community: An environmental scan exploring the effectiveness of teenage pregnancy prevention strategies

Shelby Johnson, BSc Health Promotion Honours Candidate, Dalhousie University

Introduction

Pregnancy Rates in Canada/Alberta

- In 2008, **14.3 per 1000** women under 20 years gave birth
- Recent downward trends nation-wide – remains high in Alberta (Statistics Canada, 2015)

Teenage Pregnancy

- Prevention is key – teenage pregnancy can negatively impact the quality of life of the teen (Stunk, 2008)

Community Efforts

- Evidence-based programs supported by the community have been found to be effective (Best Start, 2008)

Research Question

How does the literature (grey and academic) describe the effectiveness of teenage pregnancy prevention efforts?

Methods

Methodology, Methods, and Design

- Environmental scan - current grey and academic literature
- Synthesized wide range of sources: academic peer-reviewed journals, government policies, and public blogs
- Qualitative data conceptualized perspectives people have on teenage pregnancy prevention through secondary data.

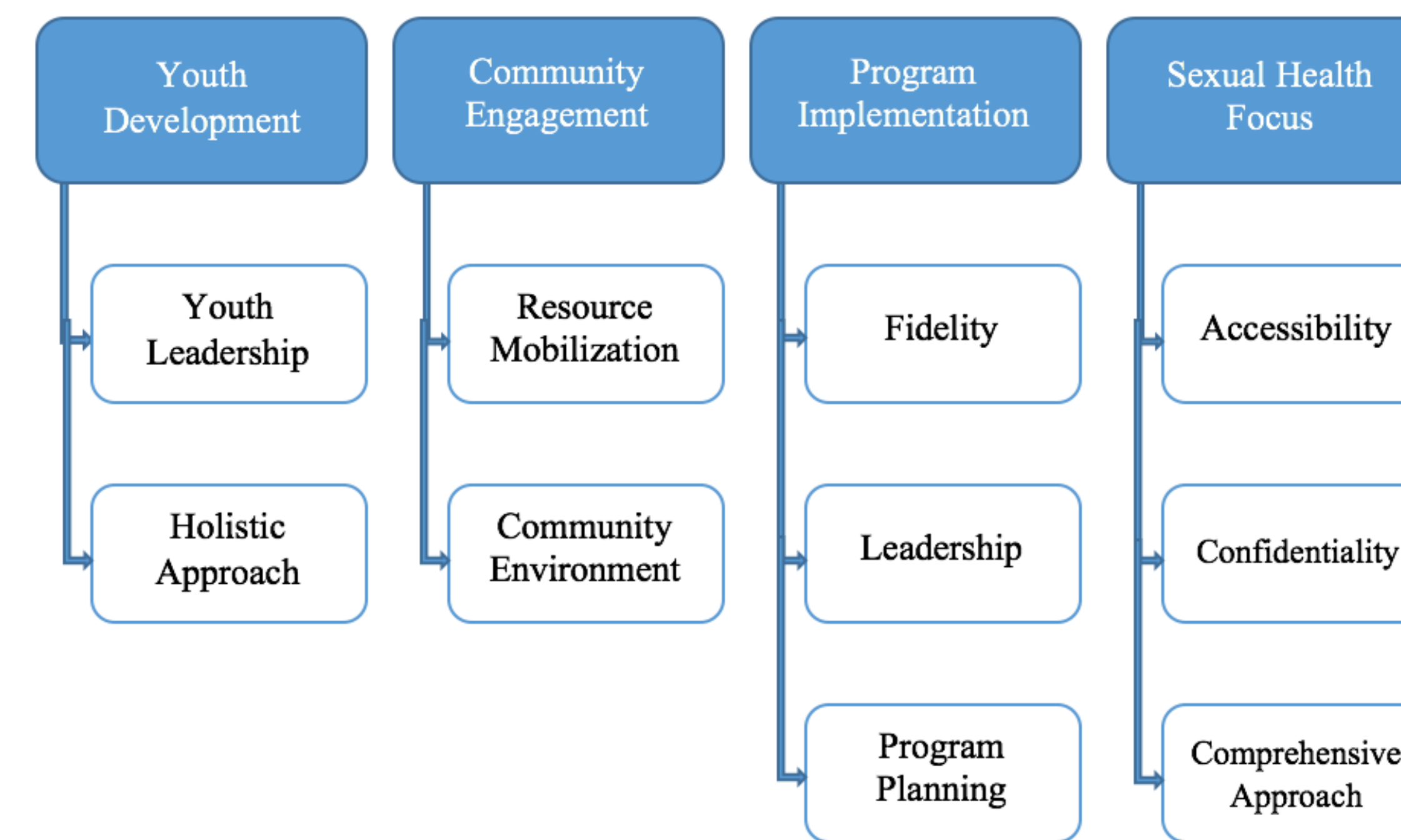
Data Collection

- PSCYCHInfo and CINAHL – health focused databases
- Keywords: teen pregnancy prevention, community engagement, youth development, and enabling environments.

Data Analysis

- **30** sources analyzed
- Thematic analysis of secondary data identified relevant themes and sub-themes
- Colour-coding provided visual representation of identified themes

Results



Youth Development

“A wider approach to adolescent pregnancy prevention”

Culturally sensitive discussion of teenage pregnancy

Youth Leadership

- Opportunities for community engagement and skill development
- Development of personal goals

Holistic Approach

- Incorporates range of topics and social media marketing
- Involves both men and women

Program Implementation

“The high quality implementation of a program into a community that will have a positive impact”

Substantial supporting evidence

Fidelity

- Community program loyalty

Leadership

- Maintains momentum and progress
- Shared leadership prevents stress

Program Planning

- Awareness of external factors
- Needs assessment

Community Engagement

“Values, strategies, and actions that support authentic partnerships”

Sustainable community change

Resource Mobilization

- Human capital or equipment
- Increases with community support
- Supports long-term outcomes
- Cost-effective

Community Environment

- Promotes social acceptance
- Empowers stakeholder involvement
- Builds community capacity

Sexual Health Focus

“State of physical, mental, and social well-being in relation to sexuality”

Promotes sexual rights for all.

Accessibility

- Youth-friendly times
- Reduced or no cost

Confidentiality

- Promote school curriculum
- SMS as follow-up

Comprehensive Approach

- Sexual health education - recognition of pluralistic society

Discussion

Current Research

- Limited research on effective prevention programs
- Significant gaps in literature to replicate effective programs

Roles of the Community

Collective action: Incorporating members of the community: youth, parents, teachers, and organizations.

- Need guidelines on how to integrate a variety of perspectives

Appropriate Setting

- School curricula's can reach target population but struggles with consistency in information and voluntary participation.

Youth-Friendly Approaches

- Recognizes importance of including youth in all aspects of program implementation - provides a sense of empowerment

Quality Implementation

- Evidence-based programs address the needs of the community

Implications

The findings of this research study will provide evidence-based suggestions on how to create effective prevention programs. Future work is needed on how to implement desired programs.

Future Considerations

- 1) Guidelines should be created to assist in developing community partnerships
- 2) Curriculum-based education should be offered throughout the high-school grades in Alberta
- 3) Establish criteria on how youth-friendly approaches can be incorporated into all prevention programs

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my supervisor Dr. Matthew Numer, my HPRO 4101 Professor Dr. Brad Meisner, my Honours Coordinator Dr. Karen Gallant, my thesis reader Professor Becky Spencer, and my Honours classmates for their support during this project.

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