

The three presentations taken together point to the following picture:

- There appears to be an improvement in the prevalence of the non-sexual risk behaviors traditionally tracked by the YAFS studies. The trend from 1994 to 2013 indicates overall decreasing levels of smoking, drinking and drug use.
- This picture suggests a more health conscious youth population, as supported further by the finding of a high prevalence of physical exercise.

#PinoyYouthToday:
Results from the 2013 Young Adult
Fertility and Sexuality Study
Feb 6, '14, GT-Toyota Asian Center
Auditorium, UP Diliman
UPPI - DROF

Conclusions

- YAFS 4 has identified new non-sexual risk behaviors to track in future YAFS surveys:
 - diet
 - the experience of violence
 - harassment using the new technologies



Conclusions

- While there is improvement in the non-sexual risk behaviors, the picture on sexual risk behaviors indicate a worsening trend:
 - the prevalence of premarital sexual activity has increased but the use of contraception/protection against STI remains low and unchanging from its 1994 level
 - the narrowing of the gap in the prevalence of premarital sexual activity between young men and women, amidst increasing PMS prevalence in general, is likely a major contributor to the sharp increase in teenage fertility

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Conclusions

 the new technologies have given rise to new forms of sexual activity and new means of meeting sexual partners that could increase the risk of adverse consequences, esp. under a context of low prevalence of the use of protection



Conclusions

- The increased prevalence of sexual activity in various forms may indicate new normative standards regarding sex
- Norms around marriage may also be changing as indicated by a higher proportion of the living-in than the formally married in the YAFS 4 sample.



Conclusions

- One distinct feature of the Filipino youth of 2013 is their high prevalence of usage of the new information and telecommunication technologies.
- The ubiquitous cell phone and the internet are shaping the lives of today's youth in ways that we are still to fully understand.
- These new technologies can be tools for increasing risks but they can also serve as tools for mitigating risks.

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