

Sexual Behavior, HIV and STIs: Perspectives on Research

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Unintended Pregnancies in Youth

Unmarried women in their twenties account for about 1 million unplanned pregnancies each year – a rate of over 2,700 per day. Unmarried women between 20-24 account for about 65% of these.

Approximately half of all abortions are to women in their twenties - a rate of over 1,600 abortions per day

More than two thirds of unmarried women who experience an unintended pregnancy are not co-habiting

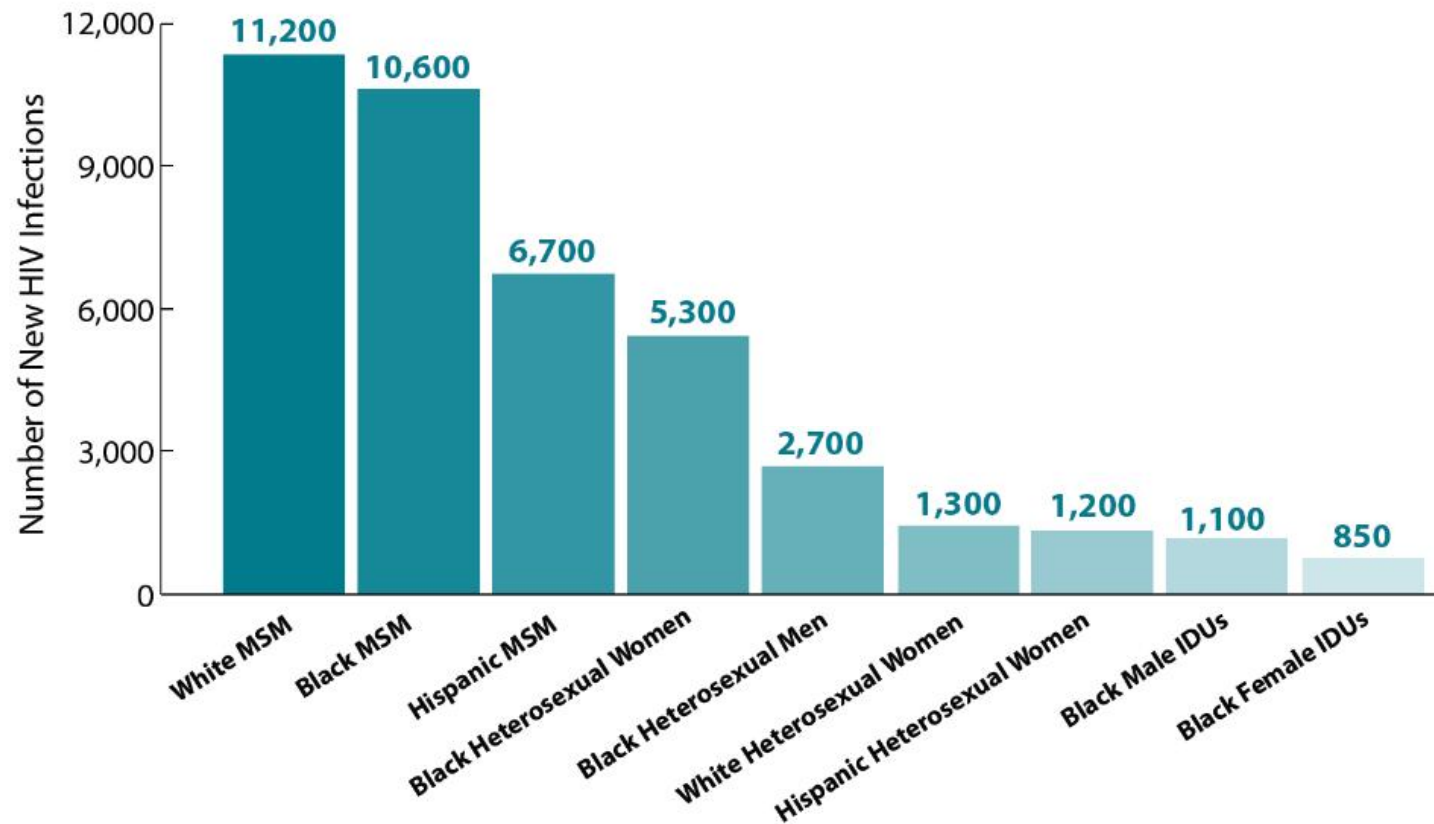
Rates of unplanned pregnancy among teenagers are declining, but declines for women in their twenties are much more modest

HIV in Youth

There are about 50,000 new HIV infections diagnosed each year in the United States (rates in parentheses are per 100,000)

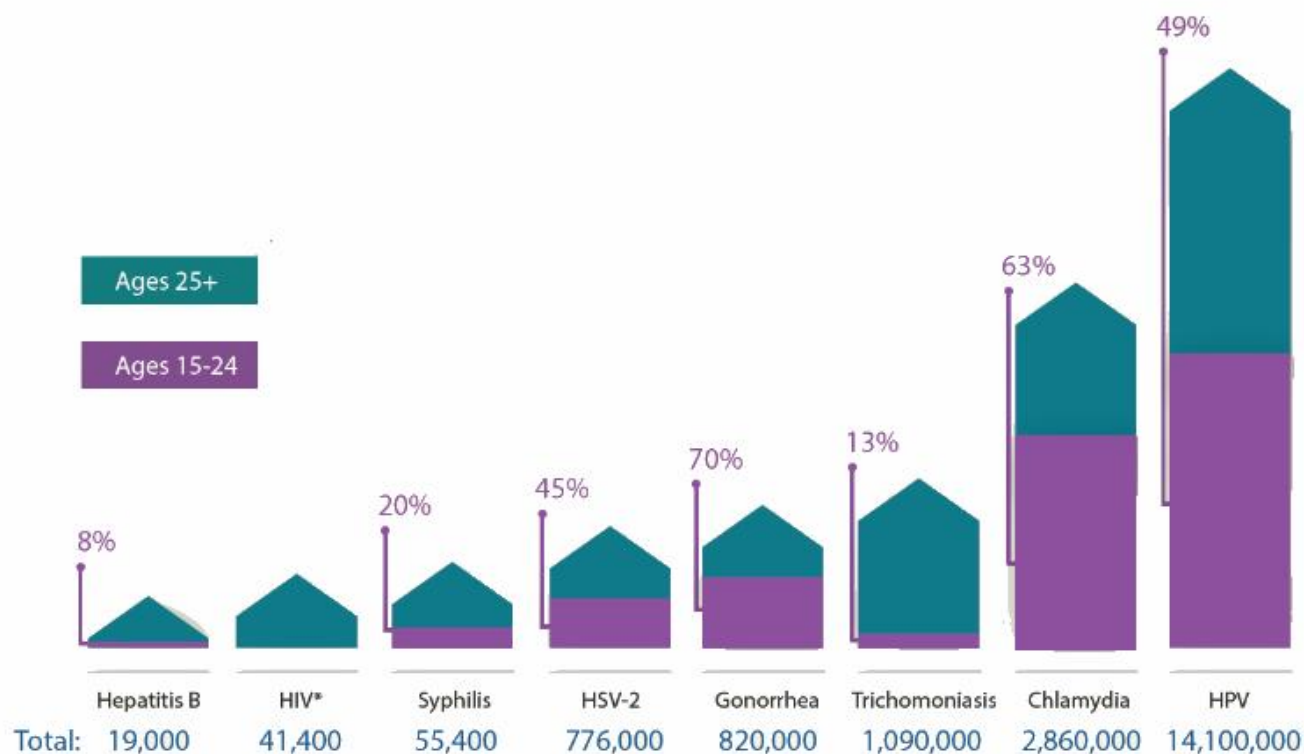
<u>Age at Diagnosis</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
<13	245 (0.5)	204 (0.4)	209 (0.4)	165 (0.4)
13-14	42 (0.5)	29 (0.4)	41 (0.5)	44 (0.6)
15-19	2195 (10.4)	2148 (10.4)	2051 (9.9)	1936 (10.4)
20-24	6530 (31.4)	6675 (32.3)	6977 (34.4)	6943 (36.4)
25-29	6890 (33.0)	6490 (31.2)	6250 (31.7)	6397 (35.2)
30-34	6093 (32.1)	5676 (29.7)	5401 (28.9)	5311 (30.3)
35-39	6434 (31.6)	5603 (28.5)	4990 (26.8)	4515 (27.0)
40-44	6785 (32.6)	5936 (29.5)	5157 (26.6)	4909 (27.4)
45-49	5921 (26.6)	5195 (23.7)	4741 (22.6)	4734 (25.1)
50-54	3804 (18.2)	3600 (17.3)	3411 (16.4)	3383 (17.5)
55-59	2254 (12.5)	2111 (11.6)	2024 (11.0)	1979 (11.4)
60-64	1132 (7.7)	992 (6.5)	1037 (6.6)	1057 (6.9)
>65	901 (2.4)	811 (2.1)	762 (2.0)	808 (2.3)

HIV by Risk sub-population



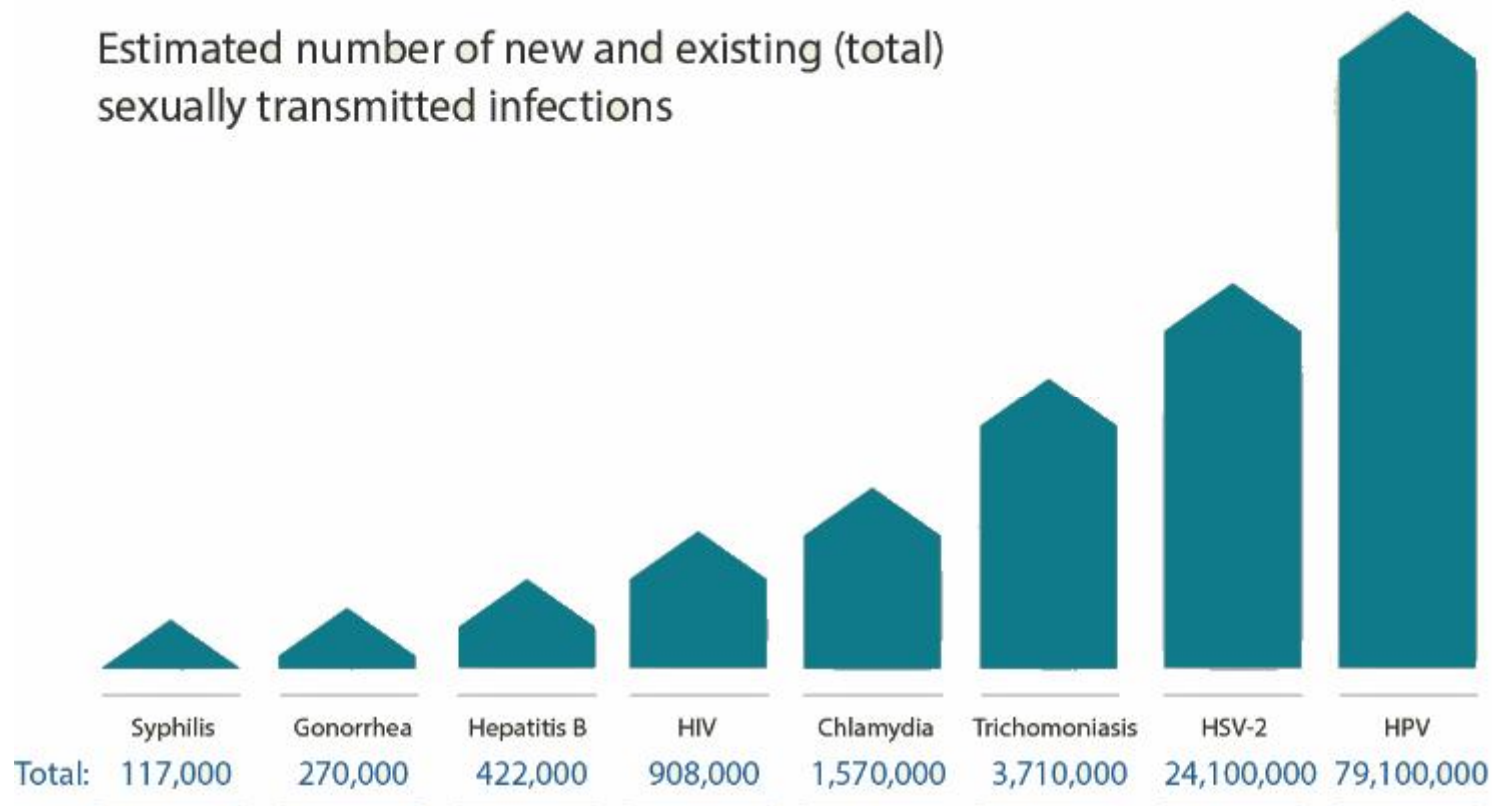
Sexually Transmitted Infections in Youth

There are about 20 million new STI infections per year. 15-24 year olds account for half (a rate of 27,000 infections per day; without HPV, about 8,200 infections per day)



Sexually Transmitted Infections in Youth

Estimated number of new and existing (total) sexually transmitted infections



Sexually Transmitted Infections in Youth

Four STIs in these rates are easily treated: Chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and trichomoniasis. Many such infections go undetected because they can have no symptoms. Untreated, they can have non-trivial health consequences

The percentage of youth in their twenties with genital herpes infection is about 10%. The percentage for Black non-Hispanic youth is over 30%.

The number of new STI infections in youth is about roughly equal in men and women

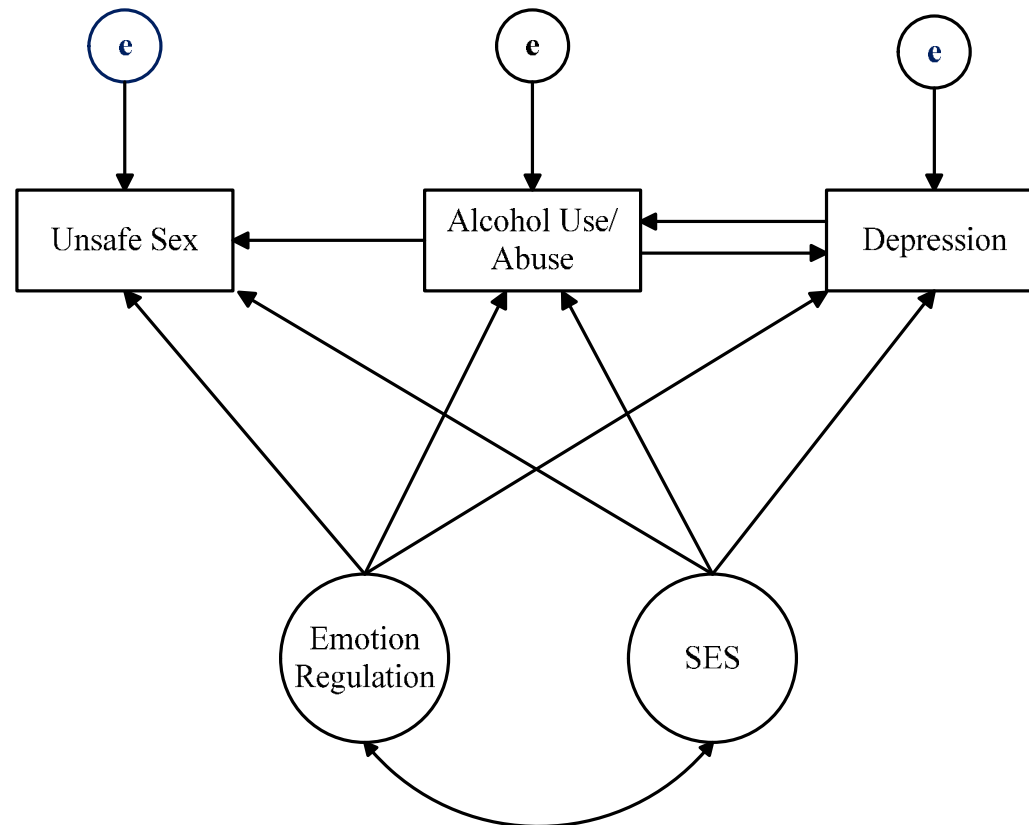
Some Research Directions

- 1. A science of tailored and targeted interventions**
- 2. Integration of behavior specific and common cause intervention design principles**
- 3. A science of (split second) decision making**
- 4. Sex and LOVE: Youth couples**

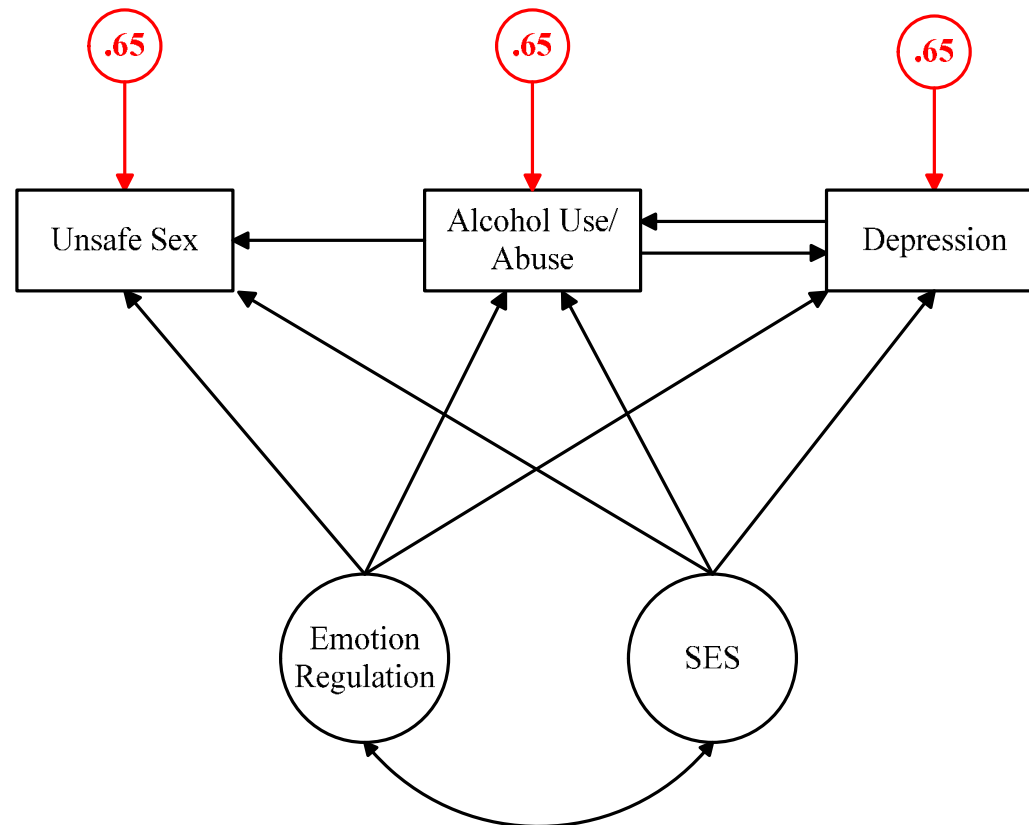
Seven Facets of Communication that are Tailorable

- Who delivers the message (source of communication)
- What you say (content of communication)
- How you say it (style of communication)
- When you say it (communication timing)
- How often you say it (communication frequency)
- Where you say it (communication context)
- Over what channel you say it (communication channel)

General versus Behavior-Specific Interventions



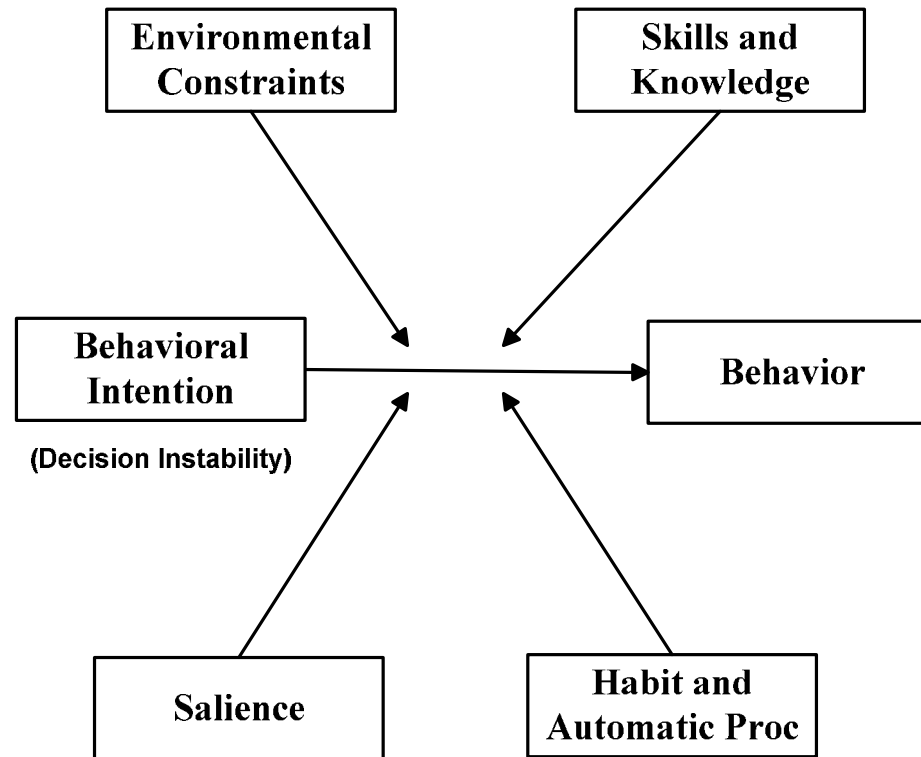
General versus Behavior-Specific Interventions



General versus Behavior-Specific Interventions

The Principle of Specificity in Social Psychology: Variables that are specific to the behavior have far more predictive power than distal variables that do not reference the behavior

Split Second Decision Making



Left Out Variable Error

