



CONTINUING EDUCATION SESSION

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SESSION	CE HOURS	DATE/TIME
CE9	1.0	Friday, November 4th 3:30pm-4:30pm
TITLE		
<i>Black Women's Sexuality: Six Practical Steps for Designing a Resilience-Based Sexuality Curriculum</i>		
AUTHORS		
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AASECT - Core Knowledge Areas and Training:		C; H; P
APA - Curriculum Content Criteria:		1.2; 1.3
NCHEC - Areas of Responsibility:		1.3.3; 1.4.2; 3.2.1; 4.4.2; 4.4.3; 4.4.4; 4.4.5; 8.4.1
ABSTRACT		
<p>Background - Sexuality education in the United States often reflects majority (white) populations. Research seeking to understand Black women's sexual lives tends to focus on reporting prevalence rates for sexual risk-taking behaviors, condom use, unplanned pregnancies, and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. There is a need to not only consider the multiple social and institutional factors that contribute to ongoing disparities but to also produce sex-positive data about U.S. Black women and their sexuality. Data available is typically under-represented in sexuality education materials. Additionally, topics such as consent, healthy relationships, and pleasure are either missing or inadequate. To properly prepare health educators and program developers, sexuality education curricula must include 1) affirming, comprehensive, culturally congruent information that centers the sexual experiences of U.S. Black women and 2) strategies for how to apply intersectional and anti-racist approaches when delivering lessons. Theoretical Perspective - A team of sexuality educators conducted a review of existing sexuality education literature and curricula to inform the development of strategies for working with Black women and adolescents. While effective prevention encompasses the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and abilities within the context of one's life and circumstances, our method takes this further by integrating an explicit focus on racial equity, social justice, power analysis, and history using the Theory of Freeing paradigm. A freedom theory approach is especially significant for Black women because their sexual experiences, self-attested perceptions and informed consent are rarely included in mainstream models of sex, media, or sexuality education. Significance - Identifying new and effective methods to engage Black women in addressing sexual health inequities are necessary as we strive to create the healthiest nation possible. This presentation provides practical approaches to developing and implementing effective programming as well as meeting the evolving needs of the intended audience. [Abstract 1 - Dispelling harmful stereotypes, images, and educational philosophies] Presenter: Regina Davis Moss, PhD, MPH, MCHES The history of sexuality education has been shaped by religion, idealism, and moral dogmas that have created paradigms for how women should act, feel, or believe. Female gender roles have been portrayed as chaste, moral gatekeepers, and homemakers. However, U.S. Black women have imposed, and internalized sexuality stereotypes rooted in historical and contemporary systemic oppression. A closer analysis of the intricate processes of sex educator' pedagogy is paramount to better understanding how to effectively support Black women in sexuality education. [Abstract 2 - Free as a caged bird: Applying the health education-based theory of freeing to resiliency in Black female sexuality education] Presenter: Davondra Brown, MEd, MCHES Black women often find themselves at the intersection of</p>		



health and culture, with no real discernable answers. Troubled by a history of violation, intergenerational mistrust and a lack of attention to their needs; Black women find this narrative persists even in sexual health. Reminiscent of Sarah Baartman in the early 19th century, Black women are still ogled, demeaned and degraded for their statuesque body type. Yet, are grossly underrepresented in consent-given sexuality research and efforts to address their unique concerns in a genuine and culturally-infused manner are completely non-existent in main-stream sexual health education. This presentation will demonstrate how resilience-fortified sexual health education can create awareness, empowerment and mental-muscle in both the educator and the participant. [Abstract 3 - A promising shift toward sex-positivity for Black women] Presenter: Ashley Townes, PhD, MPH Sexuality research and educational materials reflecting Black women tend to focus on adverse sexual and reproductive outcomes. Recently, there has been a shift toward promoting sexual exploration, knowledge, and agency among this group. This presentation will highlight notable sex-positive research and educational materials while discussing the need for more culturally accurate information that is comprehensive and shame free.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To distinguish how myths and stereotypes impact Black women's sexuality education
- To describe different philosophies of education
- To identify the research gaps related to Black women's sexuality