Cultures, Sex & Perceptions of Risk Among African-American, Black-Caribbean and African Men and Women in the US

Background
- HIV infection trends among Black men and women in the US are reported using historical racial classifications, only.
- Cultural groups within a race have unique values and traditions that may influence perceptions of HIV risk and HIV risk behavior.

Target Sample
- English-speaking, adult men and women who reside in the US and identify as African-American, Black-Caribbean or African.

Study Aim
- To explore interactions between cultural identity, cultural concepts of sexual behavior, sexual communication, gender roles, and perceptions of risk for HIV infection.

Preliminary Results
- 218 participants recruited via Facebook, Craigslist and Tumblr.
- Self-selection of ethnic group is highly individualized, however, participants reported strong identification with the cultural group of their choosing.
- While knowledge of HIV transmission was high overall, when stratified by cultural group, perception of risk for HIV infection varied. Participants who identified as African or Black-Caribbean reported higher perceptions of risk for HIV infection than participants who identified as African American.

Future Research
- Concept Analysis of culture, cultural identity, sexual behavior, gender roles and risk.
- International recruitment of participants to assess the influence of acculturation on hypothesized relationships among variables.

Description of Study Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Study Sample</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean Age (SD)</td>
<td>35.96 (10.05) years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>66%</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Residence</td>
<td>NYC, Atlanta, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Los Angeles, San Francisco, DC-Metro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relationship Status</td>
<td>44% not married</td>
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<td>Perception of overall health</td>
<td>43% “Good”</td>
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</tbody>
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