

Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society

Australian Adolescent's HIV Knowledge, Perceptions and Behaviour: Trends Across Five Waves of the Australian Survey of Secondary Students and Sexual Health

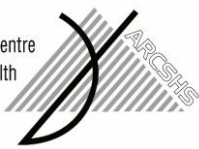
Wendy Heywood, PhD

Christopher M. Fisher, PhD

Jayne Lucke, PhD

Graham Brown, PhD

Australian
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in Sex, Health
& Society



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Background

- HIV notification rates remain highest among young adults (The Kirby Institute, 2016)
- Knowledge increase and behaviour change remain key STI prevention strategies (Department of Health, 2014)
- Longitudinal data related to knowledge and behaviour lacking

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Methods

- National survey of Australian secondary students and sexual health
- 5 waves
 - 1992 N=4594
 - 1997 N=3550
 - 2002 N=2388
 - 2007 N=2926
 - 2013 N=2136

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Methods

- In-school data collection
 - 2-stage random cluster sampling
 - *2013 internet sub-sample
- Year 10 & 12 students

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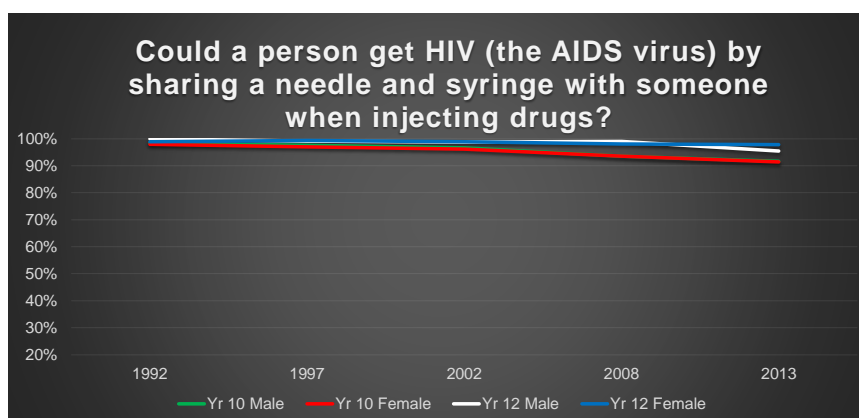
Methods

- Trends examined by descriptive comparisons
 - Knowledge
 - Behaviour
 - Parent Communication
 - Partner Communication
 - Information Sources

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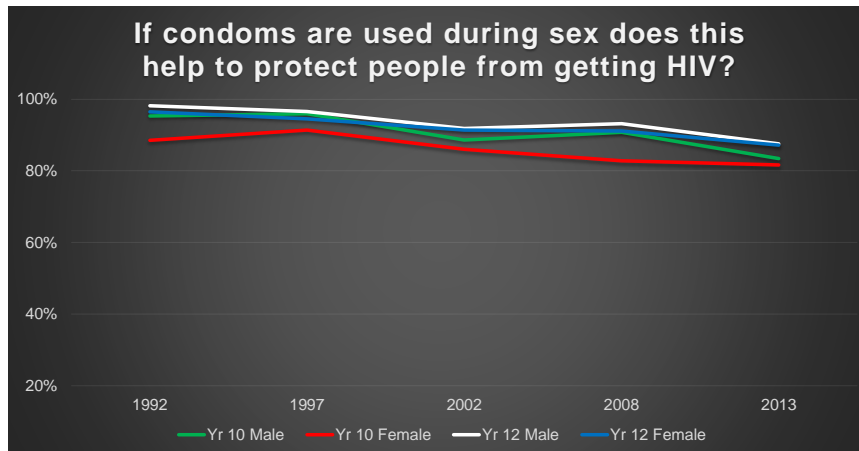
Results - Knowledge



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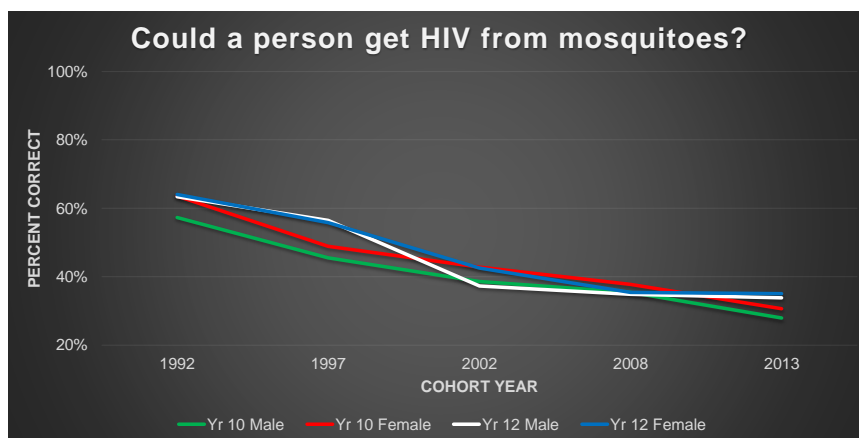
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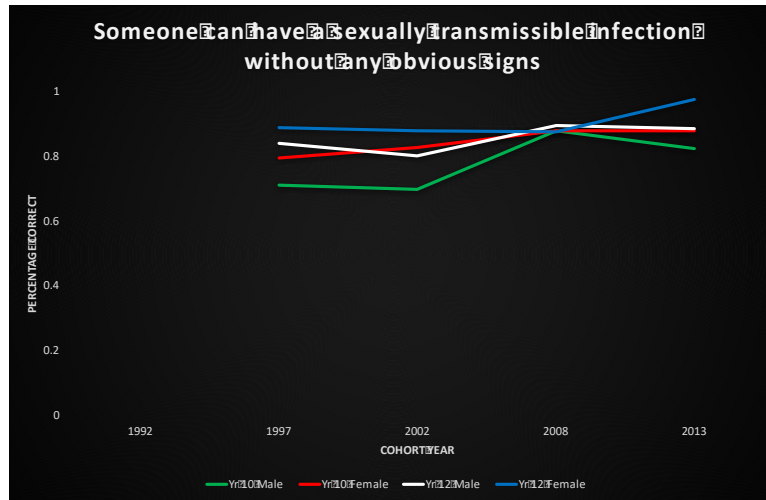
Results - Knowledge



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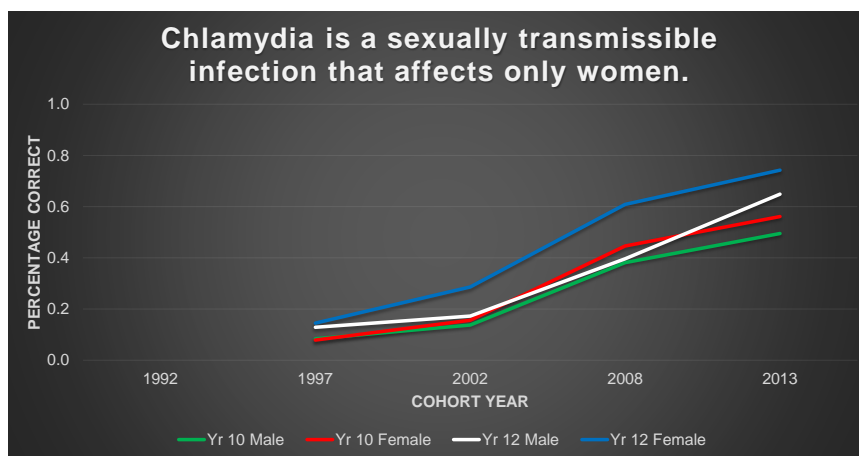
Results - Knowledge



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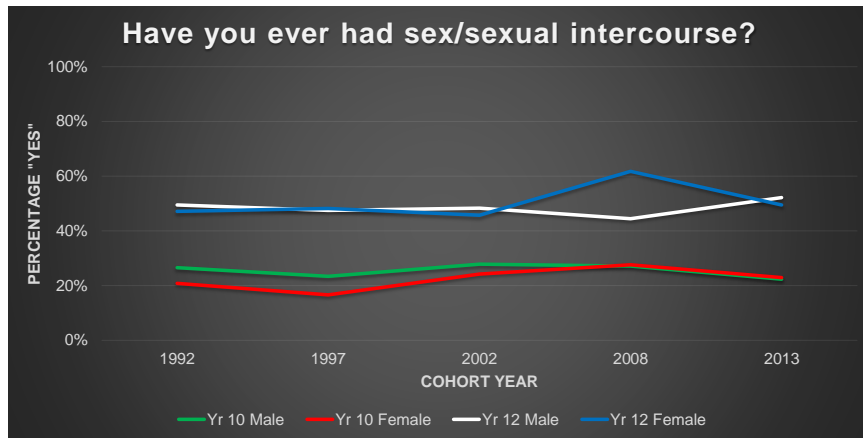
Results - Knowledge



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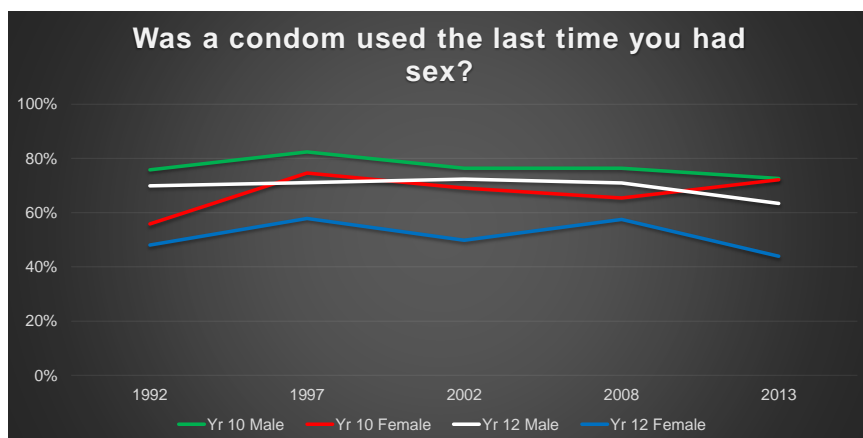
Results - Behaviour



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Results - Behaviour



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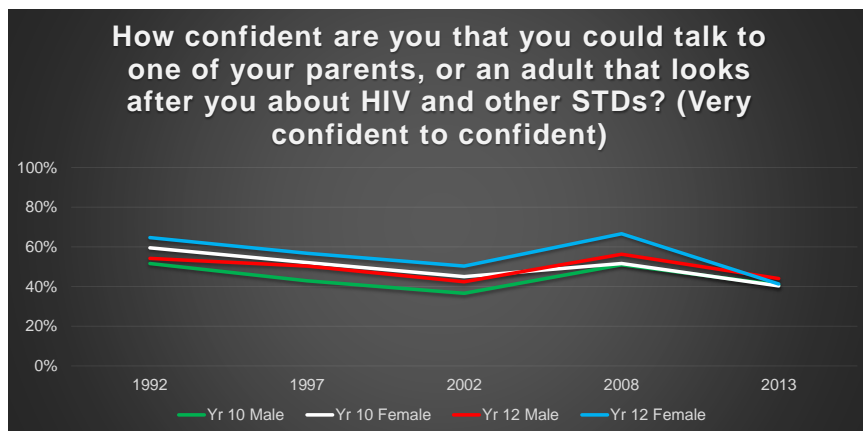
Results – Parent Communication



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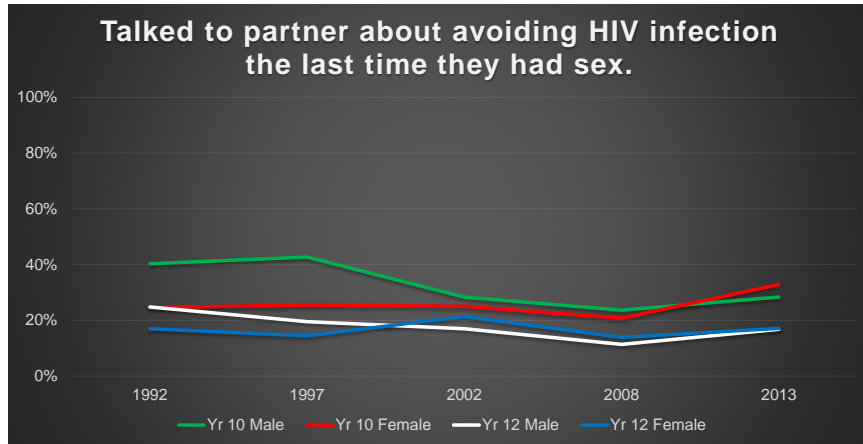
Results – Parent Communication



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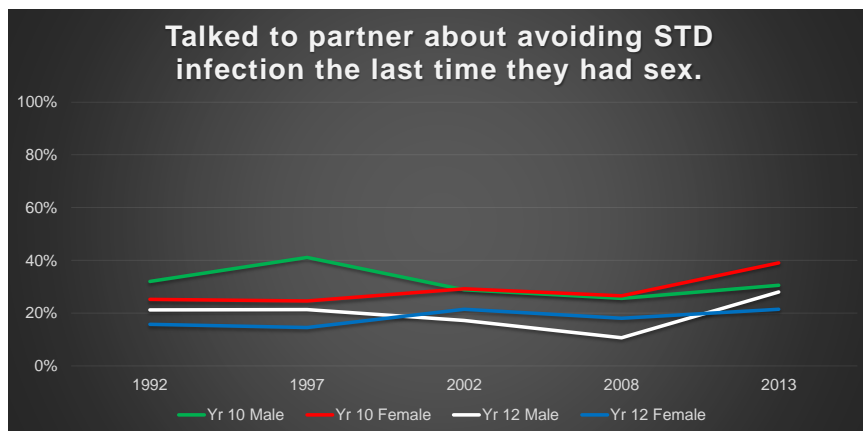
Results – Partner Communication



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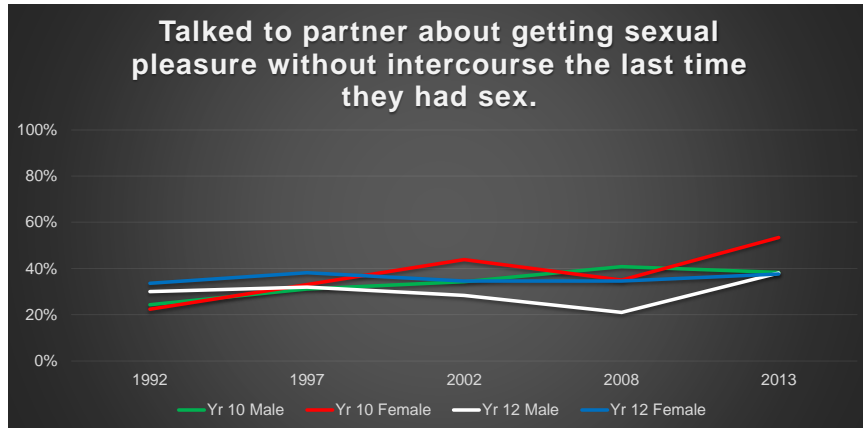
Results – Partner Communication



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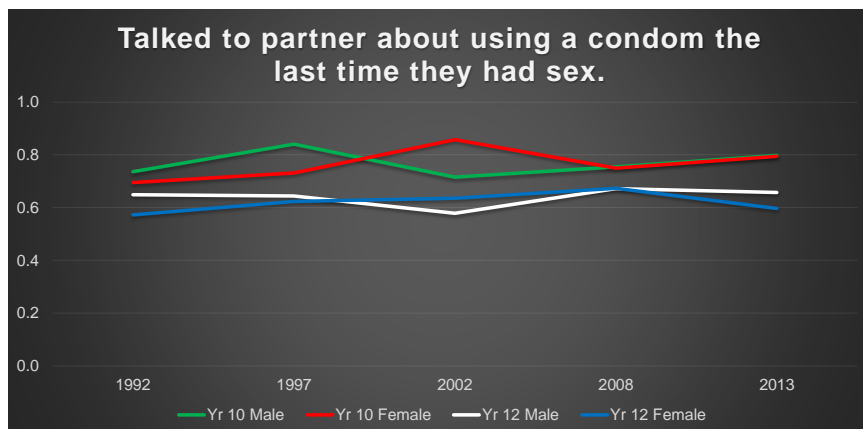
Results – Partner Communication



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Results – Partner Communication



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Results – Information Sources

- School Program (~58%)
- Internet (35% in 2008, 43.6% in 2013)
- Mum (~36%)
- Female Friend (~34%)
- Teacher (~30%)
- Dad (~27%)
- Male Friend (~22%)
- GP (~17%)

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Discussion

- Relatively FLAT trends over the last 25 years
 - Big changes
 - HIV Mosquito question
 - Chlamydia question

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Discussion

- Relatively FLAT trends over the last 25 years
 - Big non-changes
 - Overall HIV/STI knowledge trends
 - Every had sex
 - Condom use/discussions
 - Pleasure discussions
 - Information sources

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Discussion

- Limitations to plotting descriptive data
- More robust analyses needed

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Conclusions

- Despite efforts over 25 years
 - No major shifts
 - Some good (condom use, pleasure)
 - Some not-so-good (overall communication low)
- Need to expand our efforts beyond traditional settings (e.g., schools)
 - Systems thinking?
 - Systems approaches?
 - Systems modeling?

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Thank You!

c.fisher2@latrobe.edu.au



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