

**The attitude of Christian youths towards the use of condoms in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS infection in Tanzania: the case of Anglican Church in the Diocese of Njombe**

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**Master of Arts (Sociology)**

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HIV/AIDS, for the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is threatening to wipe out the entire Tanzania population. Its transmission and spread is increasing rapidly in our society but the most hit are the youths aged between 15-35 years. Since Christian youths also engage in sexual activities, they are also at high risk of HIV/AIDS infection. Thus, it was this realization that prompted this study. The study focused on the Christian youth's attitude towards the use of condoms in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS infection. Data was collected using questionnaires, Focus Group Discussions, documentary review and informal discussions. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 100 youths perceived themselves to be at little or no risk. Yet 52% of them had practiced sex. Only 17.9% of them considered themselves to be at risk. Generally, the youth show negative attitude towards condom use. Some regard its use as an indication of unfaithfulness, shame or prohibited by parents and church leaders. The majority of priests and parents were completely against condom use and for them the subject of condom use leads to HIV/AIDS infection while positive attitude towards condom use leads to prevention of risk behavior. The study therefore recommends that in order to fight HIV/AIDS among Christian youth, the church and parents must engage their youth in special youth programmes which aim to empower them with life skills which will in turn help them to examine their own sexual life