

# REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RISK PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR MINORS

**Prevention is better than cure, even if it is less visual and emotional.**

An integrated strategy for development consists of promoting effective prevention.

**Prevention should be the priority of all parties wishing to act for development.**

We are working at the beginning instead of just the end.



ALLIANCE ANTI TRAFIC

# IN-SCHOOL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RELATED RISK PREVENTION EDUCATION.

## WHY NOT?

Many people in Vietnam believe that children should not be exposed to sexual matters in order to protect their innocence. Reproductive health and sex-related risk prevention education for children, therefore, is out of question. This mentality needs to change.



We cannot wait any longer to fight against sex crimes perpetrated against children, and we also need to move forward from the obsolete beliefs about sex education for children in the country.



Providing knowledge and skills to take care of their bodies and to protect themselves from sex-related crimes is an effective preventative measure.



After working on supporting victims of sex crimes for 15 years in Vietnam, we strongly believe that prevention is better than a cure. AAT's program for reproductive health and sex-related risk prevention education aims at helping our children not only avoid health-related risks of diseases, teen pregnancy and abortion, but also will help prevent them from falling victims to the horrible crimes of sexual abuse and human trafficking.

This report is a summary of the feedback we have collected from children, parents, teachers and local partners about the program. The objective of this document is to resonate the voice of the people we serve about the necessity of an effective approach to educate children about reproductive health and to mitigate the risks while preventing sex-related crimes.

**AAT'S PROGRAM FOR  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
AND RELATED RISK PRE-  
VENTION EDUCATION**

- Changes during puberty
- Risk identification
  - Teen abortion
  - Sexually transmitted Infections, HIV/AIDS
  - Sexual Abuse
  - Human Trafficking
- Self protection skills through role playing exercises and escaping techniques and basic self-defense moves.



## The program

**REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
AND RISK PREVENTION  
EDUCATION FOR MINORS**

**BY THE NUMBERS**



*The program began in 2008 and has been implemented by Alliance Anti Traffic (AAT Vietnam), Thien Chi Center and Anh Duong Center of Mekong Plus.*

### NUMBER OF STUDENTS IMPACTED



**60,000+**  
Students with  
**2,000+**  
Trainings organized

### NUMBER OF TEACHERS TRAINED



**1.000+**  
Teachers were trained on skills regarding reproductive health and related risk prevention with a learner-centered training approach

### NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATED



**350+**  
Middle schools and schools for hearing impaired students

### PROGRAM LOCATIONS



Hau Giang,  
Binh Thuan,  
Ho Chi Minh City  
**And soon in**  
Hue, Thanh Hoa and  
Quang Ninh

# WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY THINK?

We collected more than 450 opinions from community members about the program and reproductive health and risk prevention education through different channels.



QUESTIONNAIRES

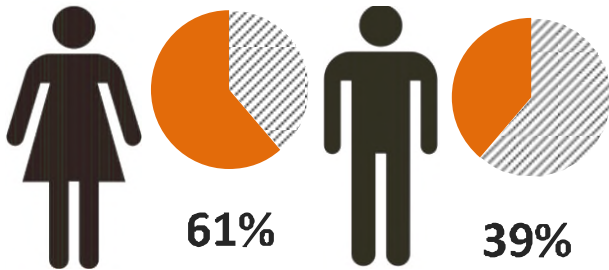


IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS

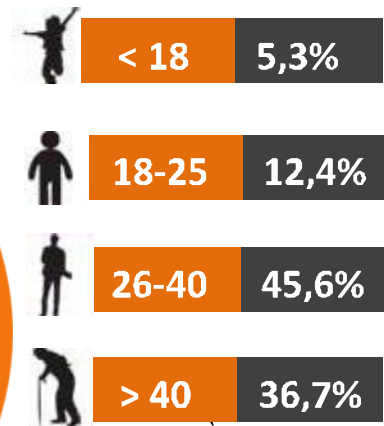


ONLINE SURVEYS

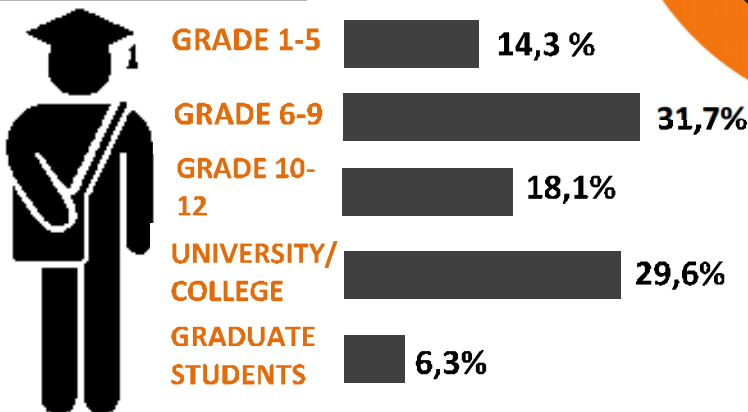
## SEX



## AGE GROUP



## EDUCATION



**450+**  
Answerers





# ARE CHILDREN

AMONG THE MOST AT-RISK  
GROUPS OF

# SEXUAL ABUSE?

**92,8%** agree that children  
are among the most at-risk  
groups of sexual abuse.

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RISK PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR MINORS

### IS IT NECESSARY?

**97,4%**

Said that children need  
knowledge and skills relating  
to reproductive health to  
protect themselves.

*“... I think that the knowledge [of  
reproductive health and related  
risks] is very useful for children of  
my age. It helps us to stay safe  
from bad things; not having such  
knowledge is unfortunate.”*

*Student at Duc Tan school, Binh Thuan*

### FOR WHAT REASON?

**93,4%**

To prevent children from  
**being harmed and/or  
harming others.**

**53%**

To facilitate children’s  
comprehensive **development  
and a healthy lifestyle.**

**79,8%**

To provide children with the  
knowledge and skills to **protect  
themselves.**

**42,4%**

Reproductive health  
education is **a child’s right.**

# REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION and Extracurricular activity

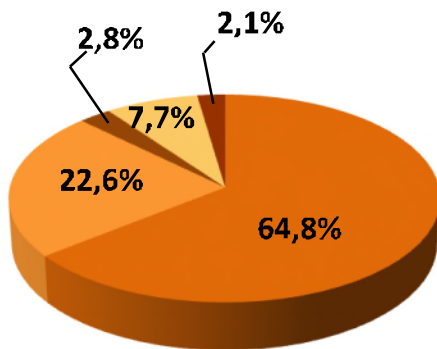


*“...The Ministry of Education and Training has recently brought swimming to schools as a necessary life skill. I think reproductive health education is necessary for our students just the same.”*

*Head of the Education Department of Tanh Linh, Binh Thuan*

## WHERE SHOULD CHILDREN LEARN THESE THINGS FROM?

- School
- Family
- Friend
- Internet
- Other



**93,8%**  
**AGREE THAT**

**THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Should organize reproductive health education and risk prevention programs as an **extracurricular activity** for students.

*My parents want me to participate in the reproductive health education and risk prevention program because it not only helps me protect myself when I face with unsafe situations but also provides guidelines for a healthy lifestyle.*

*Student at Suoi Kiet school, Bin h Thuan*

# WHAT DO STUDENTS THINK?



*“...This education is necessary for us because we are faced with many risks in these times. If we are not equipped with adequate skills and knowledge, we may fall victim to those risks.”*  
*Student at Mang To school, Binh Thuan*

## NUMBER



**500+**

LOWER SECONDARY STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY

## SEX



STUDENTS INTERVIEWED IN THE PROGRAM



38,56%

61,44%

## GRADE

## PROVINCE

GRADE 7: **45,1%**

GRADE 8: **22,3%**

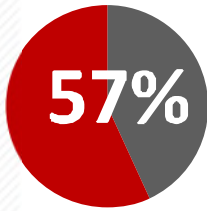
GRADE 9: **32,6%**



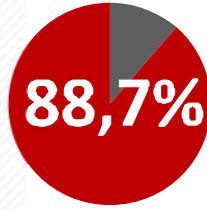
THE SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT IN: **HO CHI MINH CITY, BINH THUAN AND HAU GIANG**

*Data was collected through:  
 Questionnaires and in-depth interviews.*

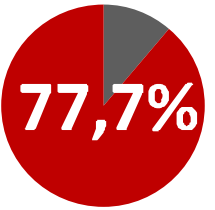




Feel MORE COMFORTABLE talking with their **FATHERS** when having issues regarding reproductive health problems.



Feel MORE COMFORTABLE talking with their **MOTHERS** when having issues regarding reproductive health problems.



Have MORE VOCABULARY to talk to parents and teachers about their reproductive health issues.

## Have you experienced any changes **AFTER PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM?**

*“...Before the program, I was hesitant to talk to teachers about my physiological issues. However, after the program, I believe that I should share these issues with my teachers and parents to get their advice on how to protect myself during my puberty.”*

*Student at Suoi Kiet school, Binh Thuan*



## OF THE STUDENTS

**81%**

Have shared what they learned in the program with relatives and friends

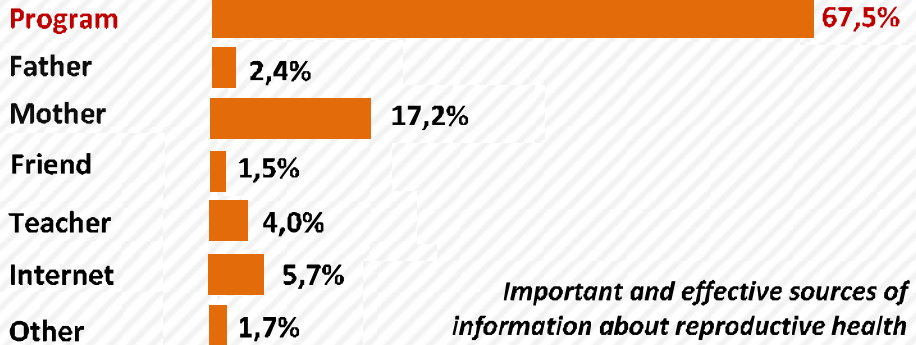
Think that this course is useful for them

**99%**



**67,5%**

**OF THE STUDENTS** agree that a reproductive health education program at school is the most important and effective source of information about these issues.



*Important and effective sources of information about reproductive health for students*



## Do you agree that

Other students should be equipped with skills and knowledge concerning reproductive health and risk prevention?

*"...I wish this program would be expanded in other schools and provinces so many students could be approached the knowledge of sexual abuse; the risks of child sexual abuse would decrease then."*

*Student at Phuong Ninh school, Hau Giang*



**Agree that reproductive health education at school is necessary.**



**65,1%**

**OF THE STUDENTS**

**Are ready to petition the Ministry of Education and Training to organize similar programs for all of the students.**

# PREVIOUS EVALUATION

FROM 2008 TO 2016

To have more data to evaluate impacts and effect of the program “Reproductive Health and Risk Prevention Education for Minors”, we collected opinions from former students after each course.

## SEX



45% 55%

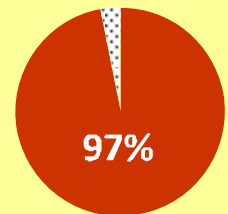
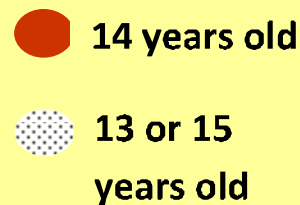
## GRADE



40,000 STUDENTS

GRADE 8

## AGE GROUP



**98%** of the students believed that the information and skills provided were very useful for them.



**96%** of the students agreed that the program is easy to understand and practice.



**75%** of the students felt more comfortable discussing reproductive health issues with their families.



**94%** of the students agreed that the program helped them overcome problems with their classmates more effectively thanks to the awareness of the changes happening during puberty.