



Let's Talk About Sex Baby: An Exploration of the Sexual Health Educational Programs the AUC Offers

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Introduction

College provides students who are stepping into a new world with a newly found sense of independence and freedom. Among that, here's other factors such as determination and even peer pressure that might promote risky sexual behavior. The purpose of this research is to explore what educational programs are offered in the Atlanta University Center (AUC) for Black college students in relation to sexual health.

Methods

Data came from four different HBCUs located in the Atlanta University Center, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, and Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM).

Various college departments were contacted by phone, including In this study all the centers at the three universities that were contacted to inquire about sexual health related educational programs that are offered for their students (see Table 1).

Table 1. Universities and Departments/Offices Included in the Study

University	Department/Office
Clark Atlanta University	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Services• Counseling Services
Spelman College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Services• Student Center• Women's Center• Counseling Center
Morehouse College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Services• Counseling & Accessibility Services
Morehouse School of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and Wellness Center

Results

Of the nine departments contacted at the four schools, four departments answered and only one department was able to answer about what educational programs about sexual health are present at their institutions.

Spelman has a S.H.A.P.E. program, which puts on events and offers the students education in regards to sexual health and the importance of sexual health. According to their website, the mission of S.H.A.P.E. is to improve the lives of African American women by engaging Spelman College students, AUC schools and the surrounding community in dialogue and frank discussions about health and living healthy lifestyles for positive outcomes.

Discussion & Conclusions

Overall, there is more that can be offered in the AUC in regards to safe sexual health. It does not stop there as well. Although this is a sensitive subject, college campuses are unfortunately a place that sexual assaults occur often. There are many students who are looking for a resource and an outlet on where to turn once this occurs.

Students should be offered more related to sexual health education. On campuses, there is a kind of complacency with the fact that students do not educate themselves, and administrators/people over departments do not care to educate the students on their risky behaviors, and there is an intervention that needs to be done for it.

Young Black adults in college deserve comprehensive sex education.

