CYBERSENGA PHASE ONE
QUALITATIVE INTERVIEWS: ADOLESCENT INTERVIEW GUIDE

I. Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this study.

Today we are going to have a conversation about HIV and sex. We realize that some people your age have played sex while others have not.

We want to hear about your experiences, whatever they might be. I’d like to remind you that everything you tell me will be kept private.

The information you give will not be shared with anyone else, including your parents, teachers, the school administration or other schools participating in this research.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

II. Interview

1. When I say HIV, what comes to mind?

2. What are some of the ways HIV is transmitted?

3. What are the ways a person can prevent getting HIV?

4. How have you learned what you know about HIV transmission and prevention? (List 2-3 sources.) Which sources have been most helpful?

   Ask specifically about the Internet if it is not mentioned.

5. What ideas about HIV transmission and prevention have you heard that you think are not true?

   Allow the interviewee time to respond

6. How have you learned what you know about sex? What did you learn from these sources?
7. Tell me about the last time you heard a story about someone your age having sex. What happened? Why?

*Probe for detailed story.*

8. What are the main reasons that youth are having sex?

*Probes to use after initial response:*
  - *What about:*
    - peer pressure,
    - sexual desire or curiosity,
    - emotional attachment,
    - financial incentives (e.g., sugar daddies or mommies), etc.
  - *Anything else?*

9. Tell me about a time you heard about sex between people your age that might have happened, or almost happened, but in the end, didn’t. What happened? Why?

*Allow the interviewee time to respond*

10. What are the reasons that youth decline or avoid sex?

11. What about abstinence?

*Leave this question deliberately open-ended.*

*Allow the interviewee time to respond.*

12. Do people your age take steps to protect themselves from HIV?

a) What do they do?

*Allow time for the interviewee to respond.*

*Probes to use after initial response:*
  - *What about condom use?*
  - *What about delaying sex?*
  - *What else?*

b) Why do they do this?

c) Tell me a story you’ve heard or experienced about people taking steps to protect themselves.

13. Tell me something you’ve heard or experienced about someone engaging in activities that might expose them to HIV. Why didn’t they protect themselves?
14. Suppose a young person was being pressured or forced into playing sex when s/he didn’t want to. How might s/he deal with this situation?

   *Allow interviewee time to think and respond*

15. Suppose two young people from Mbarara wanted to play sex and wanted to use a condom, but didn’t have one.

   a) What would they do?

   b) If they were able to obtain a condom, would they know how to use it?

   *Probe: Why do you say that?*

III. Wrap-up

1. Thinking back over what we have talked about, is there anything else you would like to add?

2. Do you have any questions for me?

3. What did you think about the interview?

Thank you again for your time.