

LOVE AND SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS:
A longitudinal study of the Experiences And Plans Of
Wealthier Young People Regarding The Upcoming Valentine's Day
In Phnom Penh, 2009-2014
(A Quantitative Study)



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Phnom Penh, February 2014

Executive Summary

This study seeks to answer the research question: “*What plans do wealthier young people in Phnom Penh have for sexual activity on the upcoming Valentine’s Day?*” This study follows up a 2009 quantitative study, using a cross-sectional survey design with cluster sampling to survey wealthier young people aged 15-24 years old in Phnom Penh (n=715).

Results from the 2014 survey show that compared to 2009, young people were less interested in the upcoming Valentine’s Day as a special day; especially, among young people in a couple (2009: 81% vs 2014: 56%). Many of them still planned to hang out on the upcoming Valentine’s Day, but at least one third of young people preferred to stay at home, an increase since 2009. Giving gifts were decreased (2009: 58.5% vs 2014: 47.2%) while young males may still give flowers, but the trend of young couples is to increasingly buy more expensive gifts for their sweethearts. There was not much change in young couple dating on the upcoming Valentine’s Day from the previous study. Sexual relationships among young people who think they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine’s Day decreased compared to the previous study (2009:12.4% vs 2014: 11.3%), but young people in a couple planning to have sex increased (2009: 14.3% vs 2014: 15.8%). In this group, the percent of people who do not plan to use a condom increased two times (2009:15.6% vs 2014: 30.2%). Those experiencing first sex was approximately the same (around 40 percent). Correlations were observed between young people who plan for sex on the upcoming Valentine’s Day and those who think the upcoming Valentine’s Day is a special day (2009: 82.0% vs 2014: 78.0%).

The proportion of young males who plan to engage in non-consensual sex (i.e. said they will still have sex if their girlfriend / new girlfriend does not agree) has decreased (2009: 66.6% vs 2014: 47.4%). Some men who said they would not engage in non-consensual sex said “*No, I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun*”. However the distribution of reasons attempt for sex increased markedly: “*I will say to her if we don’t have sex we don’t really love each other, to try to get her to agree*”, “*I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her*”, but it only appeared this upcoming Valentine’s Day 2014. Amongst young males and young males in a couple, many people said: “*I will give her more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her*”. Approximately the same number of parents talked with their children about Valentine’s Day as in 2009. Around half the parents did not know what their children would do on the upcoming Valentine’s Day. At least one third of young people still do not know where Valentine’s Day comes from.

These Valentine’s Day quantitative study findings give more quantified information to compare to the previous study in 2009 that wealthier young people still do not understand the background of Valentine’s

Day clearly. Visible activities such as planning for a special day, giving gifts and hang out appear more likely to decrease, but invisible activities such as people's plan for sex, non-consensual sex, discussions about sexual issue, and parents who don't know what their children will do on that day is unchanged. The decrease in expected condom use, and the continued high proportion of men expecting non-consensual sex, shows that sexual rights and sexual health are concerns for young couples on Valentine's Day.

Therefore, interventions needs to more focus on sexual rights and condom use education before Valentine's Day.

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List of Abbreviations and Glossary of Khmer Terms

List of Abbreviations:

AIDS:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
BSS:	Behavioral Sentinel Survey
CDHS:	Cambodian Demographic Health Survey
EU:	European Unions
FHI:	Family Health International
FSW:	Female Sex Worker
GAD/C:	Gender and Development for Cambodia
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product
HIV:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HSS:	HIV Sero-surveillance Survey
KYA:	Khmer Youth Association
MOEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
MOWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
NCHADS:	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology, and STDs.
NGO:	Non-Government Organization
PHD:	Population Health Development Association
PE:	Peer Ethnographic
PER:	Peer Ethnographic Researcher
PS:	Playing Safe Project
PSI:	Population Services International
RHAC:	Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia
RHIYA:	Reproductive Health Initiative for Youth in Asia.
SRH:	Sexual and Reproductive Health
STD:	Sexually transmitted disease
STI:	Sexually transmitted infection
SW:	Sex Worker
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA:	United Nation Population Fund
UNICEF:	United Nation Children's Fund
WAC:	Womyn's Agenda for Change
WHO:	World Health Organization

Glossary of Khmer Terms:

<i>Bak Khaeng:</i>	Around 10 km from Phnom Penh on the No. 6A road.
<i>Kean Svay:</i>	Around 15 km from Phnom Penh on road No. 1
<i>Khmer:</i>	Cambodian people and language
<i>Ktey:</i>	Ladyboy
<i>Mahop-del-ker:</i>	Similar to food that has already been eaten. Refers to a young man mocking a woman who has lost her virginity
<i>Nhy:</i>	[female word for animal] a man whose character is feminine
<i>Preak Leap:</i>	Around 5 Km from Phnom Penh on the No. 6A road
<i>Tea Kouch shop:</i>	Chinese bubble tea shop
<i>Psar Thmei:</i>	“New market” but often referred to as the Central Market in Phnom Penh
<i>Wat Phnom:</i>	The name of a hill in Phnom Penh

Author Biography and Acknowledgements

This research has been undertaken by Tong Soprach, a Cambodian public health freelance consultant and Social affairs columnist for The Phnom Penh Post's Khmer Edition. He graduated from the University of Cambodia in 2008 with a Master Degree in Public Health. He has over 10 years work experience, including 8 years working with youth on gender and other relevant issues. He worked 2 years with GAD/C and 3 years with CARE in sexual and reproductive health among young people. He has completed studies on the behavior of young people both independently and while working for these organizations.

- **Author (2010):** *Love and Sexual Relationships: Experiences and Plans of Wealthier Young People Regarding the Upcoming Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2009* (A Quantitative Study), Independent Researcher
- **Author (2009):** *Young People Talking about Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008, Phnom Penh (A Qualitative Study):* Independent Research Study.
- **Author (2008):** *The Impact of Premarital Sex Among Young People in Cambodia.* Phnom Penh: University of Cambodia.
- **Coordination and Analysis (2006):** *Experiences and Changes in Sex, Relationships and RH Among Young Urban Men,* Phnom Penh: PS/CARE/KYA/EU/UNFPA.
- **Paper Co-author (2005):** *Youth Gang Rape in Phnom Penh. SEX WITHOUT CONSENT: Young People in Developing countries.* London/New York: Zed Books. pp. 158-168.
- **Author (2004):** *GANG RAPE: The Perspective of Moto-Taxi Drivers across Cambodia.* Phnom Penh: Playing Safe Project, CARE Cambodia, EU/UNFPA.
- **Primary researcher (2003):** *Paupers and Princelings: Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft.* Phnom Penh: GAD/C.

The researcher designed this upcoming Valentine's Day study to continue on from the findings of his previous Valentine's Day quantitative study (Soprach, 2010). The researcher talked to several academics who gave some comments and advice, including about the questionnaire design.

The researcher finalized the study report with contributions from Population Health Development Association (PHD) who organized and managed their research assistants, peer educators of in Phnom Penh, in the field data collection. The data entry volunteers were managed by an IT specialist who was former SRH peer educator of Playing Safe project. The research and data entry volunteers for this study received training from the researcher, who also appreciated technical assistance from academics and

friends in the form of comments and feedback and English editing of the report. This report will be published on line on 10 February 2014 in Khmer and English versions.

For this Valentine’s Day study the researcher used his own resources such as funds, materials and time.

Firstly, I would like to express my thanks to the youth research and data entry assistants who spent their invaluable time undertaking to collect data from field work and entry data. Uch Ennimit, who used to work closely with the researcher since the previous study, was selected to produce tables and charts in Ms Excel for both Khmer and English versions, Chorn Kemara contributed to typing Khmer Unicode that the author translated from English language into Khmer language and Phouk Samphaktra translated a telling story and a Valentine’s Day history for this study.

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Fifth, I want to express my deep gratitude to my wife Ngoy Chanthy who is taking care of our 2 children and led me to have an opportunity to do this research study 2014, and assisted me to verify the data in hard copy.

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I. Introduction

1.1. Background of the research

Cambodia's socio-economy has changed from a socialist regime to capitalist during the 1990s.¹ Over the last one-and-a-half decades, Cambodia has achieved high rates of economic growth and a rise in national living standards between the first national household survey in 1993/4² and the most recent survey in 2012.³ Annual GDP growth averaged 7.3 percent per annum over 2012.⁴ The 2008 Cambodian Census reports the largest population cohort to be aged 9-18 (24.5 per cent total population)⁵. This is the group the researcher chose for the first phase of this study. This group are currently 15-24 years of age. This population is experiencing rapid change both emotionally and physically, and many individuals in this age group are involved in high risk activities, including in sexual relationships. In certain respects, legal standards in Cambodia do draw a line between a child and an adult. The legal age of marriage is 18 for women and 20 for men.⁶ A recent national study indicated that men marry at a median age of 22.6 and start to be sexually active just before marriage, at a median age of 22.1; whereas women get married at a median age of 20.3. The median age at first marriage has been stable for the past 20 years. Women generally begin having sexual intercourse at about the same time as the average age to be married, at a median age of 20.8.⁷ Qualitative research undertaken in ? by the author showed that many young people are having sexual experiences at a much younger age. This includes numerous stories of non-consensual sex and group rape. Study participants reported that pressure for sex, and the number of consensual and consensual sexual experiences, was high on and around Valentine's Day. This motivated the current study. An initial quantitative study prior to Valentine's Day 2009 was followed up in 2014, to understand people's attitudes towards sex.

¹ Tarr, C.M. (1996b). *People in Cambodia don't talk about sex, they simply do it:*

A study of the Social and Contextual Factors Affecting Risk-Related Sexual Behavior among Young Cambodians. Phnom Penh: University of Fine Arts. p. 68.

² World Bank. (2007). *Cambodian Sharing Growth: Equity and Development Report 2007.* Phnom Penh. p. ii

³ NIS/MOP. (2013). *Supplementary note, complementary results of the Cambodian Socio-Economic Survey 2012.* Phnom Penh.

⁴ *Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said: "Cambodian achieved a GDP growth rate 7.3 percent in 2012".*

Retrieved February 3, 2013 from: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/business/2013-02/20/c_132180432.htm

⁵ NIS/MOP. (2009). *General Population Census of Cambodia 2008,* National Report, Phnom Penh

⁶ ក្រឹត្យក្រមប្រឹក្សារដ្ឋនៃរដ្ឋកម្ពុជា (ឆ្នាំ១៩៨៩) ច្បាប់ស្តីពីអាពាហ៍ពិពាហ៍ មាត្រា១៥ ជំពូក២ ត្រូវបានដកស្រង់ចេញពីសៀវភៅកម្រង

ឯកសារច្បាប់ បោះពុម្ពលើកទី ៣ (ឆ្នាំ២០០១) នៃការិយាល័យឧត្តមស្នងការ អង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិ ទទួលបន្ទុកសិទ្ធិមនុស្សប្រចាំកម្ពុជា ធ្វើនៅភ្នំពេញ។ ទំព័រទី ៦៤៤ ។

Degree of State Councils of Cambodian State (1989). *Marital Law, Article 5, Chapter 2.* Cited by 3rd edition Legal Document Braid. (2001), United Nations Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Phnom Penh. p. 644.

⁷ National Institute of Public Health and National Institute of Statistics. (2011). *Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2010.* Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Valentine's Day and sex:

There are varying opinions as to the origin of Valentine's Day. Some experts state that it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D., the day that later became devoted to love. Gradually, February 14 has become a date to exchange messages of love, and St. Valentine has become the patron saint of lovers. The anniversary of his death is often marked by sending poems and simple gifts such as flowers.⁸ And other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl--possibly his jailor's daughter--who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and--most importantly--romantic figure. By the Middle Ages, perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France. St. Valentine's Day is now a day for sweethearts. It is the day that you show your friend or loved one that you care.⁹

Valentine's Day is acknowledged throughout the world. Valentine's Day in Cambodia has only recently become popular, especially among young teenagers who buy and give flowers, gifts and cards to each others, and hang out with their sweethearts or friends.¹⁰ Generally young men in Cambodia have more of an opportunity to hang out in groups and to socialize than young women who often stay at home. Young women have a chance to hang out during the Khmer New Year and other festivals.¹¹ Young Cambodians are being introduced to notions of individuality and materialism, and are experiencing a greater level of urban wealth and sexual freedom than ever before.¹²

⁸ Retrieved February 12, 2008 from http://www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint_valentine.htm

⁹ Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.history.com/content/valentine/history-of-valentine-s-day>

¹⁰ "...Meeting with a few young men, in the front of Preah Monivong high school in town of Battambang province, who are buying flowers for their girl who are classmates to express their love. At the evening, there were a traffic jams along the Sankae river because young people bought flowers on the streets." Kranhong. (2008, Feb. 15). This Valentine's Day There Were Not A Group of Students Who Sold Flower To Support Orphanages. *Reak Smey Kampchea*, p. 2b.

¹¹ Wallquist, L. (2002). *Youth in Cambodia: Organizations, Activities and Policies*. Phnom Penh: Forum Syd. p. 10.

¹² Fordham, G. (2003). *Adolescent Reproductive Health in Cambodia: Status Policies, Programmes and Issues*. Phnom Penh: POLICY Project. p. 3. Retrired December 23, 2008 from http://www.policyproject.com/pubs/countryreports/ARH_Cambodia.pdf

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Cambodia is recognized for its success in combating HIV and AIDS. It is estimated that the prevalence rate among adults, aged 15 to 49 years, declined from 1.2% in 2003 to 0.7% in 2013.¹³ The 100% condom use program is playing an important role in the reduction of HIV prevalence. More men in the sentinel groups reported sex with girlfriends than in the previous years of Behavioral Sentinel Survey and condom use with sweethearts is on the rise. However, condom use with sweethearts remains low. Consistent condom use with sweethearts was 39.4 percent in 2010, amongst those with one or two partners.¹⁴

STI prevalence among high-risk populations is the same as in 2001 despite national and multilateral efforts to increase female sex workers' access to STI prevention and care services.¹⁵ Tarr's study strongly suggested that many interventions ignore other contexts where young people, including young, unmarried females, are also involved in risk-related sexual behavior.¹⁶ New opportunities and greater freedoms for young people appear to have resulted in changing social norms as well, with young men turning more to sweethearts rather than paid partners for sexual relationships.¹⁷ Unsafe abortion in Cambodia remains one of the most common causes of maternal death (20-29%)¹⁸, despite the legalization of abortion in 1997.¹⁹

A quantitative study, conducted by Assumption University in Bangkok, stated that one fifth of teenagers surveyed will have sex on Valentine's Day.²⁰ A panel discussion on sexuality among young people on

¹³ NCHADS/NAA. (2013). *Towards achieving the Country Targets of the Political Declarations on Intensifying efforts to eliminate HIV and AIDS*. Phnom Penh.

¹⁴ NCHADS. (2011). *BSS Estimation of the HIV Prevalence among General Population in Cambodia, 2010*. Phnom Penh: NCHADS,MOH.

¹⁵ NCHADS. (2008). *2005 Cambodian STI Prevalence Survey: Integrated Biological and Behavioral Survey*. Phnom Penh: MoH. p. 44
Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.nchads.org/Publication/SSS/SSS%202005.pdf>

¹⁶ Tarr, C.M. (1996b). *Op. cit.*, p. 2

¹⁷ Wilkinson, D.J. and Fletcher, G. (2002). *Sweetheart Relationship in Cambodia: Love, Sex & Condoms in the time of HIV*, Phnom Penh: PSI. p.1

¹⁸ WHO. (2004). *Unsafe abortion: Global and Regional Estimated of the Incidence of Unsafe Abortion and Associated Mortality in 2000*. Geneva. Cited by MoH. (2006). *National Strategic for Reproductive and Sexual Health in Cambodia (2006-2010)*. Phnom Penh. p. 7-8

¹⁹ រដ្ឋសភាជាតិ (ឆ្នាំ ១៩៩៧) ច្បាប់ស្តីពីការរំលូត មាត្រាទី៨ ជំពូក២ ត្រូវបានដកស្រង់ចេញពី សៀវភៅកម្រង ឯកសារច្បាប់ ពោះពុម្ពលើក ទី ៣ (ឆ្នាំ២០០១) នៃការិយាល័យឧត្តមស្នងការអង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិ ទទួលបានកម្មសិទ្ធិមនុស្សប្រចាំកម្ពុជា ធ្វើនៅភ្នំពេញ ។ ទំព័រទី ៨៩៨។

National Assembly. (1997). *Abortion Law, Article 8, Chapter 2*. Cited by 3rd edition Legal Document Braid. (2001), United Nations Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Phnom Penh. p. 898.

²⁰ Ann. (2008, Feb. 11). One fifth of teenagers will have sex on Saint Valentine's day in Bang

Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh organized by the NGO, Population Health Development Association, raised questions about risky sexual activity of young people on Valentine's Day, and possible negative impacts.²¹

The author's previous Valentine's Day²² qualitative study findings reveal that young couples did not understand clearly the origins of Valentine's Day, now popular among wealthier young people in urban areas of Cambodia, although they recognized that it comes from foreign cultures via the media. The results show that more than half of the interviewees in the study were happy to engage in sex on that day and at least a few of them lost their virginity. Although most reported using condoms, perhaps reflecting increased awareness of sexual and reproductive health issues, several instances of coercion were also reported. There seems to be a general lack of parental understanding about their children's sexual activity and a corresponding lack of open communication. The study also recommended a quantitative survey among wealthier young people.²³ A year later, the quantitative survey on Love and sexual relationships: experiences and plans of wealthier young people regarding the upcoming Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2009 found that 12.4 percent young people state that they will be able to have sex and 14.3 young people in a couple state that they will be able to have sex with their sweethearts on the upcoming Valentine's Day.²⁴ This current study was therefore designed to follow up the quantitative study to compare the initial survey with results five years later. This seeks to answer the research question:

“What plans do wealthier young people in Phnom Penh have for sexual activity on the upcoming Valentine's Day?”

1.3. The Objectives of the Study

Key objectives of the present study to follow up and compare to the previous quantitative study in 2009 were:

- To learn more about wealthier young people's relationships and sexual behavior, and plans with regard to the upcoming Valentine's Day;
- To understand young people's perception of their parents' attitudes towards the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Kok. *Nation*, Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.asiaone.com/News/Education/Story/A1Story20080211-49118.html>

²¹ Chansy, C. (2008, Feb. 15). Panel Tells Youths To Use Valentine's Day Caution. *Cambodia Daily*, p. 20.

²² Soprach, T. (2009). *Young People Talking About Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008 (A Qualitative Study)*. Phnom Penh: Independent Research Study.

²³ *Ibid.* pp. 23-24.

²⁴ Soprach, T. (2010). *Love and sexual relationships: experiences and plans of middle class young people regarding the upcoming Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2009*. Independent Researcher.

1.4. Significance of the Study

This quantitative survey was completed with a large sample (n=715) of wealthier young people in Phnom Penh, who completed questionnaires about their experience and their perspectives on the upcoming Valentine's Day. These findings and recommendations are given to stakeholders such as local authorities, media, parents, and sexual and reproductive health programmers who can design interventions targeting Valentine's Day, and young people more widely. It is also a guide for researchers to design studies in more detail about the sexual behavior of young people. These findings will inform young people and help them to understand their sexual behavior in relation to this event.

1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

Time Constraint

This quantitative study was designed to further explore the findings of the previous study. The available time has been very limited to review previous studies, as the author was busy with consultancy and column writing.

Financial Constraints

This study was supported by the author's own budget derived from private consultancies and his column to the Phnom Penh Post. Hence, the budget was limited and the researcher was not able to hire professionals or highly qualified researchers for this study.

Target Population:

According to experience, literature review and observation every year, the researcher decided to choose wealthier 15-24 year-olds who hang out in the parks of Phnom Penh, as in the previous 2009 study. The study follows the WHO/UNICEF (1998) definition of youth as 15-24 years old.²⁵ This survey did not target lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) couples.

Structured Questionnaires were designed including informed consent

The researcher designed a structured questionnaire in English to receive some advice from advisors and then the questionnaire was separated into four questions. 18 questions are the same in four categories which are: young male in a couple, young male not in a couple, young female in a couple, and young female not in a couple. This was the same as the previous study format, but a few questions were revised. The questionnaires were then translated into Khmer and English versions.

²⁵ Ramage, I. (2004). *Cambodia Baseline Survey*. Phnom Penh: RHIYA Project, EU/UNFPA. p.5.

Separate survey sheets were prepared, as some questions were only asked to specific participants. Dating questions were asked only to young people in a couple. Males who answered ‘yes’, to planned sexual activity on Valentine’s Day were specifically asked what they would do if their girlfriend did not agree with their request for sex. Also in the case of the question for young males about “*sex with sex worker*” and “*Bauk*” (gang rape). Males were asked if they were involved in *Bauk* in the last 3 months. This was designed to follow up previous data on male youth *Bauk* participation, and to find out if wealthier young males would attempt to force their girlfriend to “*Bauk*”.

Training:

All research assistants were already trained in sexual and reproductive health education, and all had peer educator experience with Population Health Development Association (PHD), which has given them strategies to more easily contact wealthier young people in Phnom Penh. With this in mind, the researcher provided refresher training, including objectives, concept of the study, role plays and pre-testing of the questionnaire before the field work. The training was on a half day on Saturday, January 18, 2014. Although some data entry volunteers already had experience with data entry into SPSS 18.0, the researcher gave them further training and coaching by a team leader who is an information technology specialist.

The Research Assistants Shared Lessons Learned After Collecting Data:

All research assistants reported approaching several people who then refused to participate in the study (in total 13 people). The reasons given for declining to participate included: they went on to refuse an interview also; some were in a rush to go home; others said they didn’t want to answer the questions, they prefer relaxing. Others said they had no time to complete the questionnaire, or were busy talking or eating.

Interviewers also found it difficult to approach several couples who were seated very close together, embracing and kissing. Some groups that were approached included people who were over the target age.

At least a few interviewees could not read the questionnaire, so, the research assistants interviewed them. In one case the respondent’s friend read and then he ticked the appropriate box himself.

Data Entry Into SPSS and Data Cleaning:

During data entry and cleaning, 5 percent of the total data collected (36 out of a total of 751 observations) were incomplete and/or over the target age range. This may reflect a higher rate of incomplete questionnaire’s when using the self-administered method.

Translation:

As English is not the researcher's first language, translation between Khmer and English is always problematic and it's easy to lose meaning. In order to avoid this problem, the researcher checked the translation with native English speakers.

1.6. Definitions of key terms

Songsar: *Three meanings used in this study:* A term used for a woman who has already been engaged or has been in a relationship. Nowadays, this term is used to refer to a sexual relationship. Around 25% lead to marriage. *[Male student]*²⁶

This is the term used to address the man with whom we have mutual love. Generally speaking, when the term songsar is used, marriage is sometimes possible. *[Female student]*²⁷

Songsar: used for sweetheart/*Mith Pros* for boyfriend/*Mith Srey* for girlfriend.²⁸

Wealthier Young People: Young people's wealth status was identified through their (expensive) clothes, their gestures and characteristics (looking 'cool' as individuals or in a group), and by their mode of transport (usually ride a motorbike or a car).

The concept of "trust" or "trustworthiness": describes a quality of relationship with their partner. "This includes: faithfulness, meeting through family or friends, passing informal assessments, social status, employment, financial support, avoiding bars, appearance, and virginity. It is important to note that youth appear to evaluate partners on a combination of traits in order to deem partners trustworthy. Although youth use criteria to judge trust, they seem to overlook other criteria that could further decrease their risk for STIs/HIV."²⁹

Non-consensual sex: includes rape or attempted rape, unwanted touching or fondling/molestation, non-contact forms of abuse such as verbal harassment, forced viewing of pornography, flashing, assault, forced sex...etc.³⁰

Bauk/bowk/baowk (Gang rape) – known colloquially as *bauk* (Khmer for 'plus').

Bauk in a slang terms:

1. *Bauk* generally occurs after one (or two) youth(s) negotiate a price with a sex worker, or solicit a woman's affection and arrange a proposed destination for sexual intercourse.
2. Then the woman is taken to a hotel or guest-house, where numerous other young men are waiting, or will soon arrive.
3. The youths coerce the woman into having sex with them all without permission, often accompanied by violence.
4. Almost all of the young men say that it is not rape because they have already paid for sex.³¹

²⁶ Wilkinson, D.J. and Fletcher, *Op cit.*, p. 9.

²⁷ *Ibid.* p. 10

²⁸ The researcher decides to use all these words are the same meaning for this study.

²⁹ Longfield, K., Klein, M. and Berman, J. (2002). *Working Paper No. 51: Criteria for trust and how trust affects sexual decision-making among youth*, Washington, DC: PSI Research Division, p. 5. Retrieved December 24, 2008 from <http://www.psi.org/research/wp/WP51.pdf>

³⁰ Jejeebhoy, J.S. and Bott, S. (2003). *South & East Asia: Non-consensual sexual experiences of young people: A review of the evidence from developing countries*, No.16. New Delhi: Population Council. pp. v-3.

II. Literature Review of Previous Studies of Sexual Behavior in Cambodia

Generally speaking, western culture assumes equity between the sexes and an equal right to choose a sexual partner. Western culture is perceived as individualized and encouraging independence, so men and women are thought to have equal opportunity to do what they want. Meanwhile, some practicing Christians will wait until they get married and are virgins when they are married and remain faithful to their spouse.³² In the United States, teen pregnancy rates have declined sharply since 1991 but remain high compared to other industrialized nations. Nearly 1 million girls aged 15 to 19 years old become pregnant each year, which is about 20 percent of sexually active females in that age group. Most of the pregnancies were unplanned and young mothers are more likely to quit school, require public assistance and live in poverty.³³ Over 41 percent of male and 23 percent of female study participants reported being sexual active. Age differences with first sexual partner varied according to gender with males reporting no age difference, and females' first partners being on average five years older.³⁴

The Assumption University teenage sexual behavior survey covered 2,384 teenagers in Bangkok in 2008. It showed that one fifth of the teenagers surveyed said they will likely end up having sex and about 15.4 per cent had previous sexual experiences. Some 58.8 per cent of these said that they practiced safe sex sometimes while 21.1 per cent said they had never used condoms before.³⁵ Valentine's Day celebrations in Cambodia do not happen only in Phnom Penh by young people, but also in Battambang province. As one article describes: "*groups of young people gave a rose or any gifts to their sweethearts or friends on the streets and they may go to guest-houses. These are mostly young people and students aged from 15 to 20. According to the guest-house and hotel prices for "Krab Teuk Khmom" a scene of sex for one or two hours charged upto 15,000 to 20,000 riels (around US\$5). However, a young man recognized that the Valentine's Day was a really foreign influence and some girls lost their virginity on that day. He saw his friends liked that activity. Whereas guest-house managers, they also said that on February 14, there were*

³¹ Wilkinson, D.J., and Fletcher, G. (2002). *Sweetheart Relationship in Cambodia: Love, Sex & Condoms in the time of HIV*, Phnom Penh: PSI.

Bearup, L.S. (2003). *Paupers and Princlings : Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft*. Phnom Penh: GAD/C.

Soprach, T. (2004). *GANG RAPE: The Perspective of Moto-Taxi Drivers across Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: Playing Safe Project, CARE Cambodia, EU/UNFPA.

³² Soprach, T. (2008). *The Impact of Premarital Sex Among Young People in Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: University of Cambodia. p. 8.

³³ Stern, A. (2008, November 3). Study Links Teen Pregnancy To Sexy TV Shows in US. *Reuters*. Retrieved December 10, 2008 from <http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSTRE4A20HL20081103>

³⁴ MOEYS. (2011). *Most at risk young people survey in Cambodia 2010*. Phnom Penh

³⁵ Ann. (2008, Feb. 11). *Op cit*.

many guests since the morning for Krab Teuk Khmom a sexual scene and Guest-house managers also informed us that there are 2 years the price increase when the Valentine's Day arrival."³⁶

The WHO released new findings of an estimated 42 million induced abortions among women aged 15-44 years old in 2003, 48% of all abortions worldwide were unsafe, and more than 97% of all unsafe abortions were in developing countries.³⁷ Unsafe abortions were associated with increasing maternal mortality rates among women aged 15-49 years in Cambodia; 472 deaths per 100,000 live births.³⁸ Meanwhile, the WHO estimated the abortion mortality rate in Cambodia as 130/100,000 per live births. 45% of abortions took place at home.³⁹ This issue was personalized by the reported experience of a couple of young people who had sex before marriage, the young woman became pregnant and had an unsafe abortion as a result. The story "My wedding day ... the day my fiancée died." demonstrates the danger of unsafe abortions.⁴⁰

Another case deals with a girl who tried to speak out about an experience in which she was subject to non-consensual sex by her *sangsar* because she trusted him and then her '*sangsar*' abandoned her. The 17 year old first had sex with her boyfriend at 15 years old, this is what she described:

*'I found out that my boyfriend was not honest with me, he only wanted to sleep with me for pleasure...at first I refused his sexual advances and he became quite violent. Actually he raped me... however, he persisted, taking off my shirt completely. He was trying to penetrate me...we had sex, there was a trace of blood and I was very sore afterwards. Not long after this he abandoned me.'*⁴¹

According to Cambodian socio-cultural norms, if her '*sangsar*' speaks openly about this to his friends or other people about breaking up after having sex, she would be judged as '*mahop-del-ker*'. This euphemism refers to food which has been eaten to describe women who have already had sex and that no one then wants to marry. While conducting research on 'professional girlfriends' and women employed in the entertainment sectors, Heidi Hoefinger (2013) found that some young women who had been involved

³⁶ Bopea. (2009, Feb. 16). Guest-house room prices were raised to welcome the Valentine's Day in 2009, Battambang province. *Koh Santhepheap*. pp. 1-5.

³⁷ Sedgh, G. et al (2007, October 13). Induced Abortion: Estimated Rates and Trends Worldwide. *Lancet*, Vol. 370, p. 1338

³⁸ CDHS 2005, *Op. cit.*, p. 120.

³⁹ *Ibid.* p. 76.

⁴⁰ Cambodian Midwives' Association. (1999). Cited by Gender Watch No. 4 (2001). "My wedding day ... the day my fiancée died". Phnom Penh: GAD/C. p. 2

⁴¹ Tarr, C.M. (1996d). *Study of Contextual Factor Affecting Risk-Related to sexual Behavior among Young Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: University of Phnom Penh. p. 185.

in intimate sexual relations with both their Cambodian and/or foreign boyfriends had either harmed themselves, or even attempted suicide, by cutting their wrists or overdosing on medicine after the boyfriends cheated on them or left them for another woman. She explained that this self-harming behavior was related to various factors such as depression over a 'broken-heart', pain of rejection, fear over lack of future security, complete desperation, depression over losing virginity to that particular partner, or in some cases, a desire to 'hurt him back'.⁴² Though this was not experienced by all sexually active young women in her study, it does reveal some of the psycho-behavioral consequences that result from challenges, conflicts and misunderstandings that arise within some intimate relationships.

The '*bauk*' phenomenon has also become popular and common among the current generation of young males. This was first described in 2002 in peer ethnographic research and focus group discussions among university male students. They stated that '*bauk* was common among their peers.'⁴³ In addition, many sex workers have suffered sexual abuse and gang rape (*bauk*). As Serei Mon, a 17 year old sex worker who was a shy country girl described:

*'I have been gang-raped more times than I can remember, around 20 times... Those boys swore, slapped kicked me. They told me that they had paid the full price and they could do whatever they wanted.'*⁴⁴

Another youth study related to *bauk* found that it is not only occurring amongst sex workers but also with students. A 20 year old high school student stated:

*'For me and my friends we also use bauk with students. I just have sex with that girl like a sweetheart, two or three times. After that I call my friends to bauk her and then I break up with her.'*⁴⁵

Recently, a PSI and FHI study titled, 'Let's Go for a Walk...' stated that many men view sweethearts, including sweethearts who are non-brothel-based entertainment workers, as safe (or at least safer), meaning not having a sexually transmitted infection. Other men have begun to perceive sweethearts who are beer promoters or karaoke workers to be unsafe, but still perceive virgins, students, and women from

⁴² Hoefinger, H. (2013). *Sex, Love and Money in Cambodia: Professional Girlfriends and Transactional Relationships*, London: Routledge. Correspondence: hoefinger@iseaa.org

⁴³ Wilkinson, D. J and Fletcher, G, Op. cit., p. 30.

⁴⁴ Doyle, K. and Samean, Y. (2003, April 19-20). Youth of Today: Gang Rape Has Become the Sport of the Young Generation. *Cambodia Daily*, p. 1.

⁴⁵ Bearup, L. S. (2003). *Paupers and Princelings: Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft*. Phnom Penh: GAD/C. p. 91.

the countryside as safe. So long as men's sex-seeking focus is on finding safer partners with whom they believe they do not need to use condoms, the search for "safe sex" will go on.⁴⁶

A previous quantitative study has described premarital sex among young people aged between 15 and 24 years in Cambodia (1846 respondents agreed to answer questions related to sexual behavior). 34.3% of respondents reported they had had sexual intercourse, while 28.5% of single men reported that they have had sex compared to only 1.0% of unmarried women. This study also reported that 12.2% of respondents knew that *bowk* (= *bauk*) meant gang rape, with urban youth more likely to say that *bowk* was gang rape (30.0%) than young rural people were (5.7%).⁴⁷

A Cambodian National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (11-18 years & n = 9,388) indicated that 148 young people had had sex and 32.4% of them never used condoms, and a third personally knew young men involved in gang rape *baowk* (*bauk*).⁴⁸ Males can seek sexual pleasure without being subject to a wide range of social sanctions. Females are also thought of being able to seek sexual pleasure, but they do not have the opportunity to hang out and they cannot find sexual services. In a survey of moto-taxi drivers,⁴⁹ 72.6% had heard of *bauk* incidents, and knew of *steav* (= *punk*) who were involved in *bauk*. This study interviewed 192 moto-taxi drivers who worked at night time in the front of bars, karaoke clubs and brothels, and early morning in the front of hotels and hotels and guest houses in each of 20 provinces and 4 cities other than Phnom Penh. In addition, another youth study in Phnom Penh stated that a massive 60% of male university students knew others who have been involved in *bauk*.⁵⁰

Conservative parents of young Cambodians who wish to preserve Khmer Culture often feel that most young Cambodians are out of control and ignore all cultural conditions. A 67 year old rural peasant male expresses his sentiments:

'Today children have no respect for the teacher or the monks ... but as for sexual knowledge, particularly associated with sexual activity, young people learn from one another. If one of my sons were to get an unmarried girl pregnant, I would disown him if

⁴⁶ Smith, R. (2007). *Let's Go for a Walk: Sexual Decision-Making among Clients of Female Entertainment Service Workers in Phnom Penh*. Phnom Penh: PSI and FHI, p. 26.

⁴⁷ Ramage, I. (2004). *Cambodia Baseline Survey*. Phnom Penh: RHIYA Project, EU/UNFPA. pp. 70-78.

⁴⁸ Sunran, K. (2004). *Cambodia National: Youth Risk (11-18 years) Behaviour Survey*. Phnom Penh: MoEYS, UNICEF & UNESCO. pp. 5-7.

⁴⁹ Soprach, T. (2004). *GANG RAPE: The Perspective of Moto-Taxi Drivers across Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: Playing Safe Project, CARE Cambodia, EU/UNFPA. p. 19.

⁵⁰ Bearup, L. S., *Op. cit.*, p. 30.

*he refused to get married or paid some form of monetary compensation to her family ... it is better to disown such a child.*⁵¹

RHIYA project recently completed a qualitative study which included this new generation's parents' opinions on premarital sex. A 48 year old married man in Phnom Penh stated:

*'Parents will not allow their daughter to date before marriage. However, in terms of equal rights this is not correct. Girls need to have sex as well. In Khmer tradition, this may not be correct, but in terms of equal rights, men and women should be given the same treatment. We can provide the girls with training and some knowledge on how to protect themselves if they wanted to have sex, like using condoms and contraceptives.'*⁵²

III. Methodology

3.1. Research Design

A cross-sectional survey design was chosen for this survey. This is the same design as 2009, allowing for chosen to be the same as the previous study in 2009. It can accomplish the aim of exploration or descriptions. It can also be used for explanatory studies since background information and retrospective data can be related to current statuses, and current statuses to future expectations and aspirations.⁵³ Therefore, the structured questionnaire was designed to find the background of respondents, and their expectations on activity, love and sexual relationships regarding the upcoming Valentine's Day; and also their sexual behavior in the last three months. The questionnaire also included questions designed to gauge the respondents' awareness about consensual sex. The questionnaires are separated into four categories of the population aged 15-24 years old and wealthier young people in Phnom Penh: young males in a couple, young males not in a couple, young females in a couple and young females not in a couple.

Because of the sensitive nature of the subject matter of this study, self-administered questionnaires are used and are given directly to respondents for complete. Very little assistance was made available except in the case that a respondent did not understand a question.⁵⁴ However, this method makes interviewees confident enough to share their experiences and their plans regarding upcoming Valentine's Day. It also gives enough time for interviewers to catch up other individual or group of interviewees.

⁵¹ Tarr, C. M. (1996b), *Op. cit.*, p. 69.

⁵² Vuthy, B. (2006). *RHIYA Cambodia Endline Qualitative Survey*. Phnom Penh: EU/UNFPA. p. 47

⁵³ Baker, L.T. (1994). *Doing Social Research*. California State University, San Marcos: McGraw-Hill, Inc. p. 106

⁵⁴ Fink, A. and Kosecoff, J. (1985). *HOW TO CONDUCT SURVEYS: A Step-by-Step Guide*. The United States of America: Sage Publications, Inc. p. 45

However, due to the sensitive questionnaire related sexual activity, the author decided to use self-administered method to allow the interviewee to have more confidence to complete as anonymous and all interviewees were informed not to complete any question that they do not want. But this method is higher uncompleted rate; so, if the total number of each variable is lower than the total respondents. Missing data was not analyzed, calculated or reported.

3.2. Sample Size Calculation and Additional Adjustments in Computing the Sample Size

For this study, proportion formula is calculated, using statistics to determine sample size:⁵⁵

$$N = (Z / e)^2 p (1-p)$$

Where N = sample size;

Z = the standard score corresponding to a given confidence level;

“e” = the proportion of sampling error; and

p = estimated proportion or incidence of cases.

- Z table 95% = 1.96
- If “e” = 5%
- p = 0.30

$$N = (1.96 / 0.05)^2 0.3 (1-0.3) = \underline{323}$$

Sample design effect

The original sample size is N = 323, therefore to adjust for sample design effect:

$$N = 323 \times 1.3 = 420$$

Expected response rate

The researcher estimated that perhaps only 80% of the sample would respond to the survey, therefore:

$$N = 420 / 0.8 = 525$$

Expected proportion of eligible respondents

The researcher estimated that perhaps only 90% of the sample would be eligible to complete the survey, therefore:

$$N = 525 / 0.9 = \underline{584}$$

Expected data discard

The researcher estimated that perhaps 5% of the data collected would need to be discarded

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

$$N = 584 / 0.95 = \underline{615}$$

Finally, the total sample size, adjusted for this survey is 615.

3.3. Sampling

The target population of this study is wealthier young people aged 15-24 years old who are in Phnom Penh at the time of data collection. Study location was based on the qualitative Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008 study where almost respondents said that they always hang out at certain places near the riverfront on the weekends and special days as well: "*On Valentine's Day this year, we hung out at the Riverfront park, then had dinner together and went back home. I think that day is when all couples show their love with each other.*"⁵⁶ Thus, cluster sampling is used here primarily for administrative convenience.⁵⁷

Due to Phnom Penh urban development and changing desired locations amongst young people, the geographic cluster sampling locations from 2009 were revised. Four parks around the riverfront were selected: Independent park, Wat Botum park, the park in the front of the Royal Palace and Koh Pich island. By observation the target population is estimated to be around 200 persons, including couples, at each park during the weekend evenings and Koh Pich is the highest population. These populations move every 15 to 20 minutes. Therefore, the total population of 615 was divided into 4 areas. The interview teams (a male and a female) were asked to give questionnaires to four categories of people in these locations: young male in a couple, young male not in a couple, young female in a couple and young female not in a couple.

3.4. Data Collection Method

All the research assistants were trained for half a day on Saturday, January 18, 2014. As all were trained sexual and reproductive health and current peer educators of PHD, the researcher assumed that they had experience contacting wealthier young people. However, the interviewers were trained on the study's objectives, methodology, simple sampling, data collection technique of self-administered questionnaire, role play of face-to-face interview with the same sex (in case the respondent cannot read the questionnaire) and pre-test with drafted questionnaire (*See 4 final questionnaires in appendix 2*). The interviewers worked in pairs of one male and one female, with males interviewing males, and females interviewing females. The interviewers were paired in each park in male/female partnerships for four

⁵⁶ Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 15

⁵⁷ Fink, A. and Kosecoff, J. (1985). *Op cit.*, p. 57

reasons: it is easier to ask sensitive questions of the same sex; for support when approaching and interviewing couples; for support if the questionnaire is not clear or any problems; and for security.

Four points defined acceptable data collection, including: the name of the interviewer, the signature of the respondent in the informed consent section, the age of respondent in the target population age-group, (not lower than 15 or over 25 years old) and all completed questionnaires stapled in envelopes.

The original quantitative study took place over two days. For this study, the author decided to add one more day (Friday) to enable a larger sample size. Data collection occurred on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 24-26, 2014 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm at the 4 parks near the riverfront. The researcher recruited a field team leader who has experience in survey methodology, and the author acted as supervisor for all research assistants in field data collection.

In the field, each research assistant was given 70 questionnaires (35 for couple and 35 one for non-couple), 500 semi-A4 envelopes, 1 stapler. 800 pens were used as a gift to interviewees who completed the questionnaire, and 2 plastic bags for storage of completed questionnaires in envelopes were used to ensure anonymity of respondents.

Before interviewing, all research assistants had to complete the name code, location and their name in the informed consent section. And then they explained the objectives of the survey. If the prospective interviewee agreed to take part, the interviewer gave a questionnaire and an envelope to the interviewee, explaining about confidentiality, and allowed the interviewee to read it carefully. Before starting to complete the questionnaire, the research assistants need to make sure that the interviewee completed the informed consent and age. After completing the questionnaire, interviewers allowed the interviewees to put the completed questionnaire in an envelope themselves; and interviewers stapled it in front of interviewees and put it into the plastic bags. The interviewers helped the interviewees to answer any question that they didn't understand. In any case where the interviewee couldn't read, the research assistant either interviewed them or allowed a friend to read the questionnaire for them, and asked them to tick the relevant box themselves.

The supervisor collected all the completed questionnaires in envelopes from research assistants each day after 7:30pm and also received any feedback from the field.

3.5. Data Entry and Cleaning

A day after data collection, the researcher designed variables in SPSS 18.0, and trained a IT team leader to coach the data entry assistants to enter the data. Data was rejected if even one of the crucial criteria

data was missing. Criteria included the name of interviewer or signature of respondents in the informed consent form, if the age of respondent was not in the required age range or any completed questionnaires not stapled in envelopes. Of 751 respondents, around 5 percent (36 respondents) were removed. Thus, the final number of respondents was 715. The author checked quality control for the data entry team to verify the data entry was correct.

3.6. Data Analysis

The author was responsible for analyzing data. However, an assistant helped produce the tables in Ms Excel after analyzing from SPSS with Frequency and Cross-tab.

IV. Results

This study aimed compare the activities of young people prior to Valentine’s Day 2009 and 2014 in the hope of drawing attention to these issues at that time. The total number of valid respondents in 2014 was 715, compared to 458 respondents in 2009. Table 1 shows the total population broken down by sex in four fairly equal categories, and males (376: 52.6%) and females (339: 47.4%). The total observations were broken most equally can also be characterized into two categories of young couple (male/female) and young people not in a couple (male/female) (Table 2). The sample population aged 15-24 years old revealed normal distribution with the variance of average age 21.0 years in 2014 compared to 20.6 years in 2009 (Table 3).

Table 1: Sex Category

No.	Sex category	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Male in a couple	112	24.5	181	25.3
2	Male not in a couple	128	27.9	195	27.3
3	Female in a couple	105	22.9	166	23.2
4	Female not in a couple	113	24.7	173	24.2
Total		458	100	715	100

Table 2: Couple and non-couple Category

No.	Couple and non-couple	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Male in a couple and Female in a couple	217	47.4	347	48.5
2	Male not in a couple and Female not in a couple	241	50.6	368	51.5
Total		458	100	715	100

Table 3: Average age of respondents

No.	Age of Respondents	2009	2014
1	Average	20.60	20.98
Total number		458	715

Table 4 show that more than half (57.3%) of the data collected in 2014 was from Koh Pich island, where wealthier young people currently like to go. Koh Pich island was not included in 2009 as it was not as developed and qualitative analysis showed that many young people at that time liked to go to other parks in the city.

Table 4: Location of the data collection

No.	Location	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Wat Botum Park	85	18.6	117	16.4
2	Riverfront park (in the front of Royale Palace)	65	14.2	112	15.7
3	Independence Monument Park	118	25.8	76	10.6
4	Koh Pich island	0	0	410	57.3
5	Hun Sen Park (in the front of NAGA)	135	29.5	0	.0
6	New National Assemble Park	55	12.0	0	.0
Total		458	100	715	100

4.1. Routine Activities of Wealthier Young People

Table 5 shows that routine activities reported were similar in 2009 and 2014. More than two thirds (67%) of respondents replied that they always come here (the target parks), and one third (32.9%) of respondents said they do not always come here (the park of the interview), but sometimes go to others parks; especially, Koh Pich island nearby the target park. The majority of respondents who responded that they do not always come here said they usually go elsewhere, such as restaurants, shopping, or karaoke, or stay at home, among others (Table 6).

Table 5: Do you always come here with your sweetheart/friends to relax?

No.	Relax here	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	282	67.1	460	67.3
2	No	138	32.9	224	32.7
Total		420	100	684	100

Table 6: If no, where else do you and your sweetheart/friends go for relaxation?

No.	Elsewhere	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Mall/Supermarket/Cinema/Shopping/Restaurant	93	84.6	63	39.4
2	At home	0	0	47	29.4
3	Koh Pich island	0	0	28	17.5
4	University/School/Library	0	0	12	7.5
5	Province	0	0	5	3.1
6	Cafe Shop	0	0	4	2.5
7	Royale Palace Park/other parks	17	15.4	1	0.6
Total		110	100	160	100

4.2. Wealthier Young People Plan for the Upcoming Valentine’s Day

The number of young people and young couples who said they consider Valentine’s Day to be a special day decreased in 2014 compared to 2009 (Table 7, 8). This downward trend was observed both in young people in a couple and young people not in a couple (Figure 1).

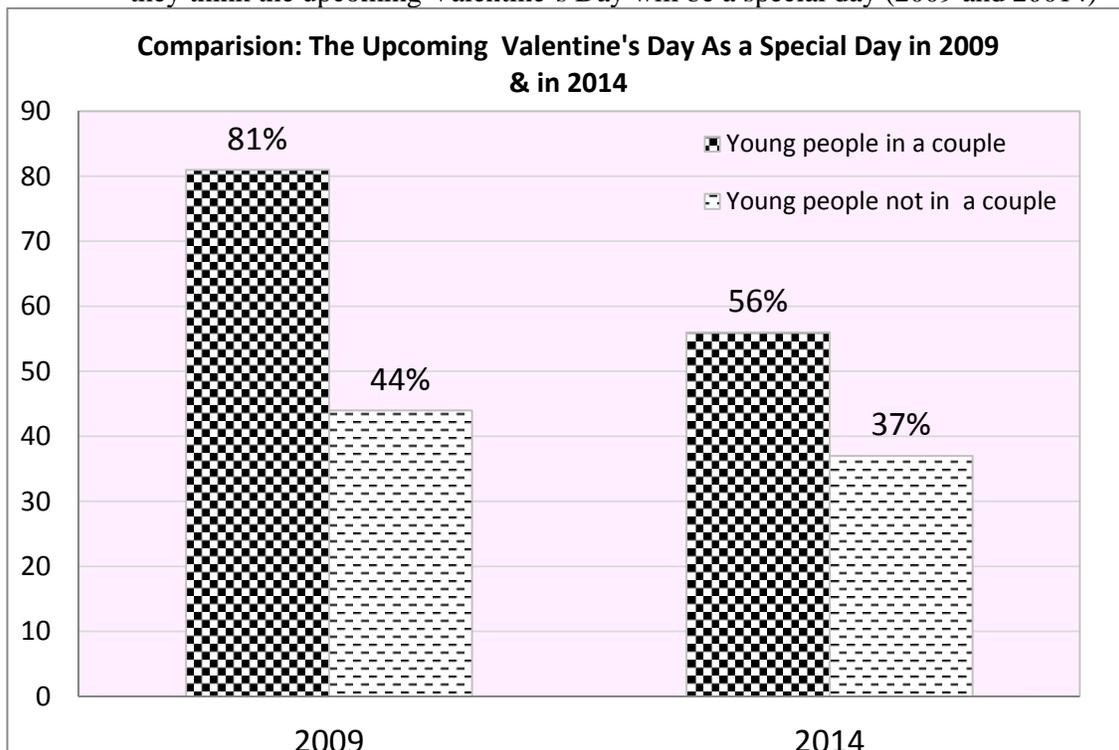
Table 7: Do you think the upcoming Valentine’s Day February 14 will be a really special day for you and your sweetheart and your friends?

No.	Special day for young people	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	271	61.2	326	46.0
2	No	168	38.8	382	54.0
Total		439	100	708	100

Table 8: Do you think the upcoming Valentine’s Day February 14 will be a really special day for you and your sweetheart?

No.	Special day for a couple	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	170	81.0	193	55.9
2	No	40	19.0	152	44.1
Total		210	100	345	100

Figure 1: Comparison of wealthier young couples and young non-couples regarding whether they think the upcoming Valentine’s Day will be a special day (2009 and 2014)



Less than half (47.2%) of all respondents plan to give a gift to their sweetheart or someone this upcoming Valentine’s Day 2014, 10% less than in 2009 (Table 9). Within this group, the number of people in couples who plan to give gifts to each other had decreased by 15% (2009: 76.6% vs 2014: 61.2%) (Table 10). Figure 2 shows the trend of giving gift was going down parallel amongst both young people and young people in a couple.

Table 9: Will you give a gift to your sweetheart or someone this upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	Giving any gift	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	255	58.5	331	47.2
2	No	181	41.5	370	52.8
Total		436	100	701	100

Table 10: Will you (Young people in a couple) give a gift to your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Gift for sweetheart	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	160	76.6	208	61.2
2	No	49	23.4	132	38.8
Total		209	100	340	100

Figure 2: Comparison of wealthier young people and young couples regarding whether they give a gift to your sweetheart / someone the upcoming Valentine’s Day (2009 and 2014)

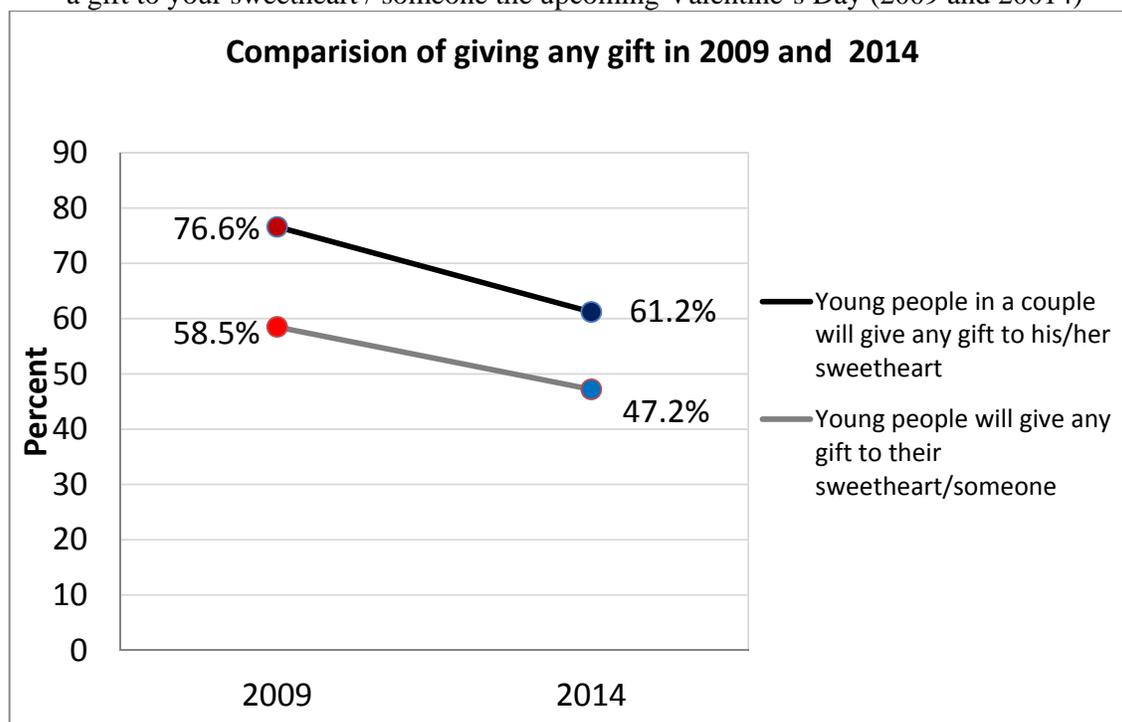


Table 11 shows the kinds of gifts that young people planned to give their sweethearts/someone. Flower gift giving reduced by almost half (2009: 56.3% vs 2014: 34.3%). As for expensive gifts such as clothes, toys and jewelry, these all increased. Young males planning to give flowers to his girlfriend or someone was higher (2009: 71.7% vs 2014: 52.2%) compared to young females who plan to give flowers to her boyfriend or someone else (2009: 27.7% vs 2014: 10.2%) (Table 12). Whereas expensive gift giving increased amongst both males and females.

Table 11: Kind of gifts that young people give to their sweetheart/someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Kind of gifts	2009	2014
		Percent	Percent
1	Gift as flowers	56.3	34.3
2	Gift as clothes	25.0	40.2
3	Gift as toys	23.1	28.0
4	Gift as jewelry	15.0	23.4
5	Gift as Others	10.6	8.7
Total number		255	331

Table 12: Kind of gifts that young males and females give a gift to their sweetheart/someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Type of gift given	2009		2014	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1	Gift as flowers	71.7	27.7	52.2	10.2
2	Gift as clothes	8.2	44.7	25.0	60.6
3	Gift as toys	30.8	13.8	37.5	15.3
4	Gift as jewelry	17.1	8.5	25.0	26.3
5	Gift as Others	6.9	17.0	8.2	9.5
Total number		255		331	

The places where young people hang out with their sweetheart or someone were not variant since 2009 (Table 13). But nearly one third of them were more likely to stay at home on the upcoming Valentine's Day (2009: 18.4% vs 2014: 29.9%). Couples planning to go to the mall increased 15% (2009: 25.7% vs 2014: 40.5%) (Table 14); meanwhile, some young couples still plan to go to a Guest house/hotel with their sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day (2009: 2.4% vs 2014: 4.7%).

Table 13: Where do you (Young people) want to go with your sweetheart/someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Where to go	2009	2014
		Percent	Percent
1	Parks	28.1	25.0
2	Mall	30.1	35.2
3	Club/entertainment center	14	9.1
4	Bubble tea	14.4	10.5
5	Cinema	10.2	21.2
6	Karaoke	10	9.8
7	Stay at home	18.4	29.9
8	Bak Khaeng / Kean Svay/Koh Dach	15.2	10.5
9	Hut/Guest house/hotel	2.6	2.3
10	Other (Kirirom, Sihanoukville)	11.2	1.2
Total number		428	684

Table 14: Where do you (Young people in a couple) want to go with your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Where to go with sweetheart	2009	2014
		Percent	Percent
1	Parks	26.2	28.5
2	Mall	25.7	40.5
3	Club/entertainment centre	19	10.8
4	Bubble tea	16.5	13.0
5	Cinema	13.6	26.6
6	Karaoke	11.6	12.7
7	Stay at home	9.3	21.8
8	Bak Khaeng / Kean Svay/Koh Dach	15.5	9.5
9	Hut/Guest house/hotel	2.4	4.7
10	Other (Kirirom, Sihanoukville)	12.3	1.3
Total number		206	347

Young couples who plan dates to have lunch or dinner with their sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day remained at around the same percentage (2009: 64.1% vs 2014: 61.0%). But those who will hang out at a Karaoke Club or Club or entertainment centre with their sweetheart decreased in 2014 (2009: 32.2% vs 2014: 22.6%). (Table 16)

Table 15: Special dating for young people in a couple (lunch or dinner)

No.	Dating with lunch or dinner	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	132	64.1	188	61.0
2	No	74	35.9	120	39.0
Total		206	100	308	100

Table 16: Special Dating for Young people in a couple (Karaoke club or club/entertainment)

No.	Dating at club	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	66	32.2	70	22.6
2	No	140	67.8	240	77.4
Total		206	100.0	310	100

When people were asked if they think they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, positive responses were 1% lower in 2014 than 2009 (2009: 12.4% vs 2014: 11.3%). But young people in a couple who stated they would be able to have sex on that day increased (2009: 14.3% vs 2014: 15.8%). (Table 18 and Figure 3)

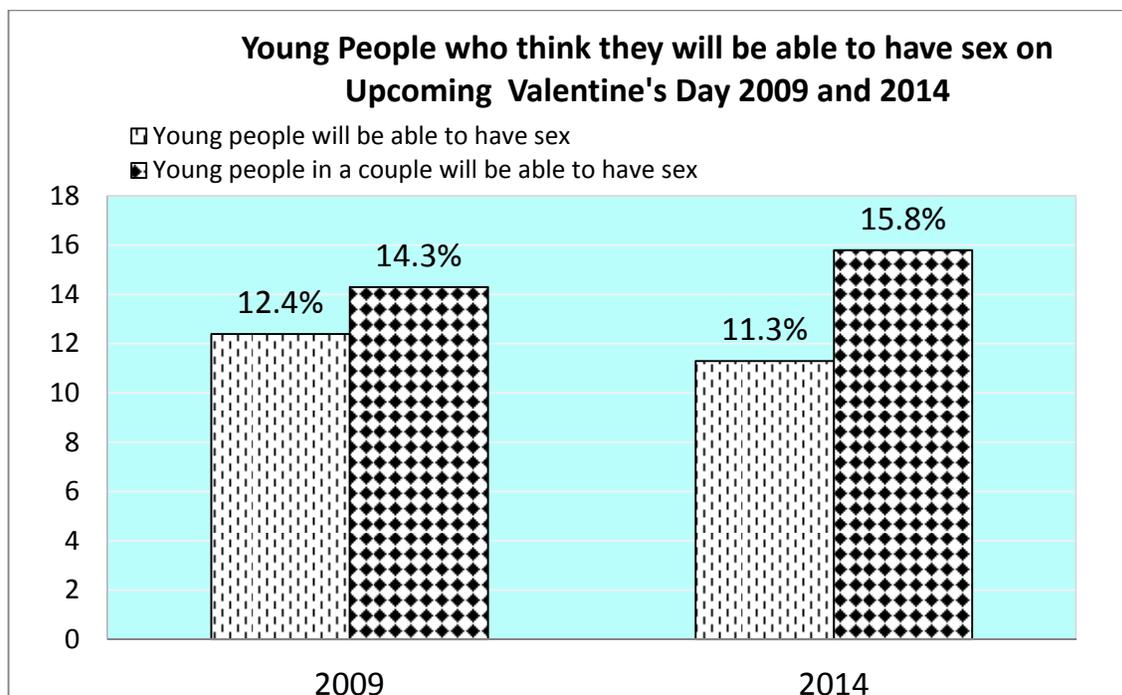
Table 17: Wealthier young **people** who think they will be able to have sex
On the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Able to have sex	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	57	12.4	79	11.3
2	No	401	87.6	618	88.7
Total		458	100	697	100

Table 18: Wealthier young **couples** who think they will able to have sex with their sweethearts
on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Able to have sex with sweetheart	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	31	14.3	53	15.8
2	No	186	85.7	282	84.2
Total		217	100	335	100

Figure 3: Comparison of wealthier young people and young couples regarding whether they think they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine’s Day (2009 and 2014)



When this question is broken down by sex category, young males in a couple who plan to have sex on that day remains higher than others (2009: 50.9% vs 2014: 48.1) (Table 19). There was a correlation between young people who plan for sex on the upcoming Valentine’s Day and those who think that the upcoming Valentine’s Day is a special day (2009: 82.0% vs 2014: 78.0%). (Table 20 and Figure 4).

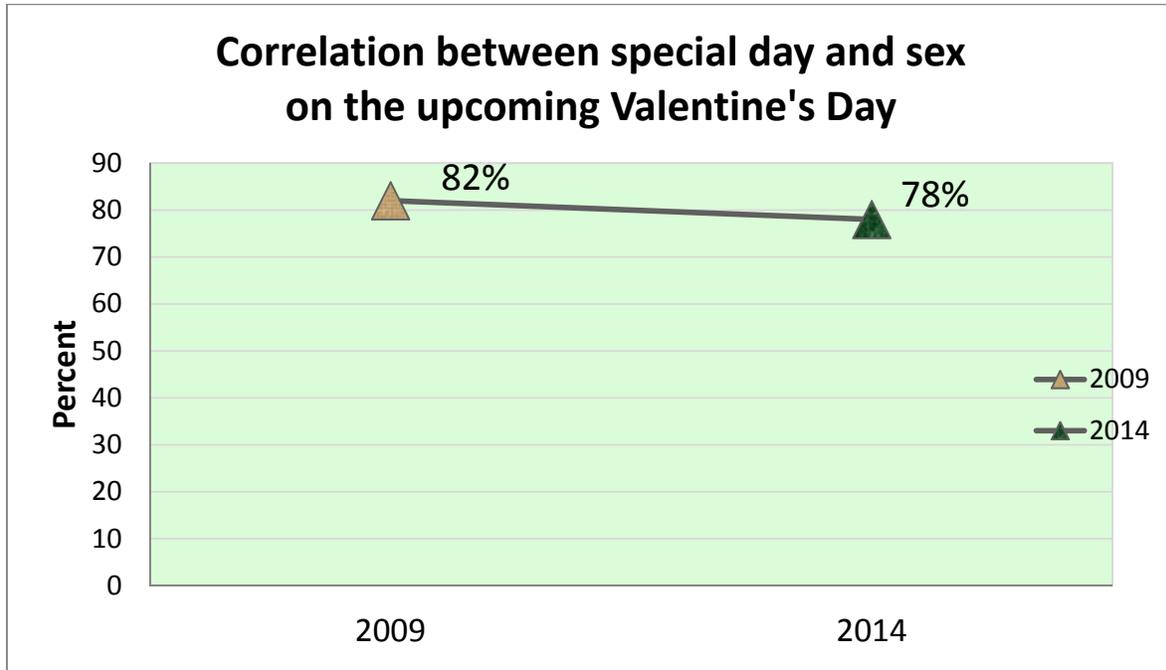
Table 19: Wealthier young people (by sex category) who think they will be able to have sex with their sweethearts/someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Able to have sex by sex category	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Male in a couple	29	50.9	38	48.1
2	Male not in a couple	19	33.3	23	29.1
3	Female in a couple	7	12.3	15	19.0
4	Female not in a couple	2	3.5	3	3.8
Total		57	100	79	100

Table 20: Wealthier young people who plan for sex were more likely happy with the special day of upcoming Valentine’s Day

No.	Trend sex and special day	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	45	81.8	61	78.2
2	No	10	18.2	17	21.8
Total		55	100	78	100

Figure 4: Young people who plan for sex related to special day of the upcoming Valentine’s Day



People who answered that they thought they would have sex on Valentine’s Day were asked if it would be their first time to have sex. Around 40% of respondents said it would be their first time, in both 2009 and 2014.

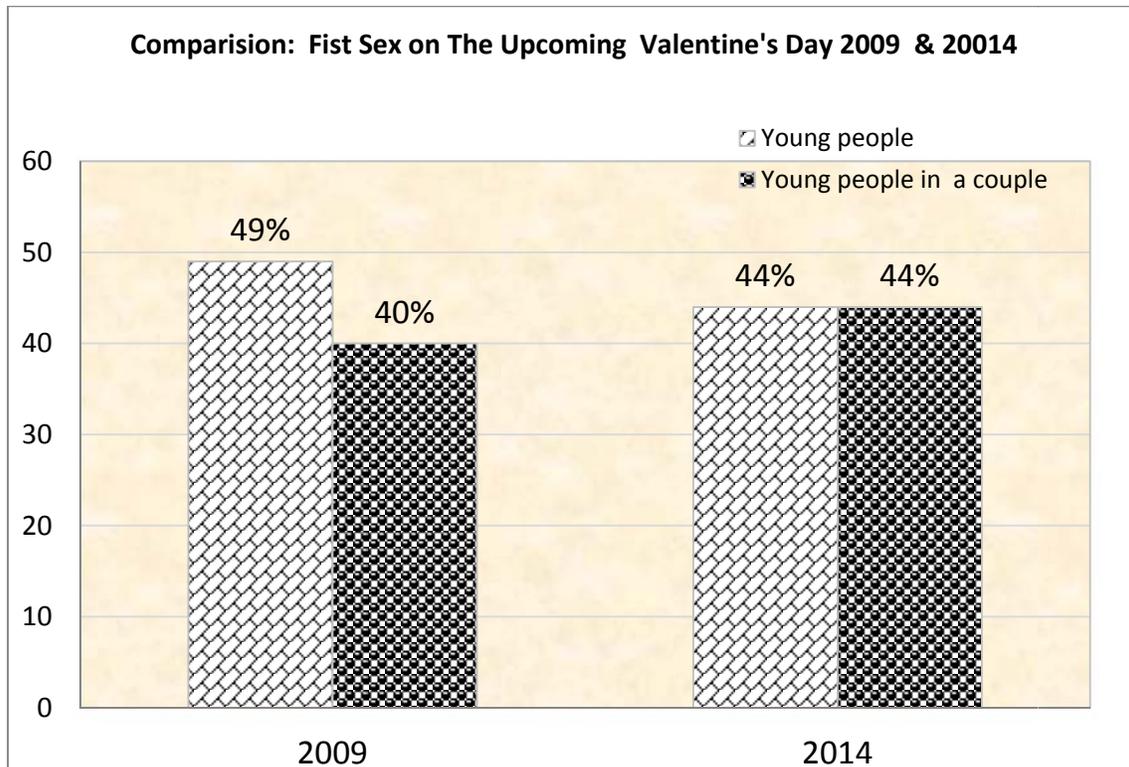
Table 21: If Yes for young people (Will be able to have sex), will it be your first time for you and your sweetheart/others (sweethearts or sex workers) on the upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	First sex	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	25	49.0	33	43.4
2	No	26	51.0	43	56.6
Total		51	100	76	100

Table 22: If Yes for young couple (Will be able to have sex), will it be your first time for you and your sweetheart/others (sweethearts or sex workers) on the upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	First sex with sweetheart	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	15	39.5	23	44.2
2	No	23	60.5	29	55.8
Total		38	100	52	100

Figure 5: Comparison first sex between young people and young couples on the upcoming Valentine's Day



When these respondents were asked if they would use a condom, those in couples who were not planning to use a condom increased two times (2009:15.6% vs 2014: 30.2%)

Table 23: If Yes for young couple (Will be able to have sex), will you use a condom with your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Condom use with sweetheart	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	27	84.4	30	69.8
2	No	4	15.6	13	30.2
Total		31	100	43	100

The number of young males stating they would find a new girlfriend/someone to have sex with on Valentine's Day if their girlfriend denied them increased slightly (2009: 55% vs 2014: 56%) and a few of these young males stated they will not use a condom with their other or new girlfriend. In this study, no data shows about condom use with sex workers and *Bauk*.

Table 24: If Yes for young males (Will be able to have sex): If your girlfriend will not have sex with you, with whom will you be able to have sex on this upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	Other girlfriend	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Other /New girlfriend who might be found the upcoming Valentine’s Day	11	55	28	65.1
2	Sex worker	5	25	4	9.3
3	<i>Bauk</i>	4	20		
4	Other (Specify.....)	0	0	11	25.6
Total		20	100	47	100

Table 25: If Yes for young males (Will be able to have sex): If your girlfriend does not want to have sex with you, with whom will you use a condom with other sexual partners on the upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	Condom use with other girlfriend	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	10	91.0	19	86.4
2	No	1	10.0	3	13.6
Total		11	100	22	100

4.3. Young Males and Non-consensual Sex

Table 26, Table 27 and Table 28 indicated that plans for non-consensual sex on Valentine’s Day reduced 15% among young males (2009: 66.6% vs 2014: 47.4%) as some men who were consensual sex said “No, I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun”. The data for 2009 and 2014 are difficult to compare on this question, as the answer options were adapted in 2014. However the distribution of a few reasons attempted for sex increased markedly: “I will say to her if we don’t have sex we don’t really love each other, to try to get her to agree”, “I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her”. The 2014 survey found that a new answer was particularly popular; approximately 30 percent of young males and young males in a couple said: “I will give her more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her”.

Table 26: Percentages of young males who plan to have sex even if their partner does not agree to do so, on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Non consensual sex	2009	2014
		Percent	Percent
1	Yes	66.6	47.4
2	No	33.4	52.6
Total Number		25	61

Table 27: If yes (young male in couple will able to have sex), but if your girlfriend does not agree, what will you do on the upcoming Valentine's Day 2009?

No.	I will	Number	Percent
1.	I will say to her if we don't have sex we don't really love each other, to try to pressure her to agree	8	32
2.	I will trick her by staying out until very late, and use a story like, I have no key to get into my house, or no one can open the door for me, to try to have sex with her	4	16
3.	I will take her to a Karaoke club and do what I want to try to have sex with her	4	16
4.	Other (No idea)	1	4
5.	No, I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun	8	32
Total		25	100

Table 28: Comparison: If yes (young male and young male in couple will able to have sex), but if your girlfriend/other/new girlfriend does not agree, what will you do on the upcoming Valentine's Day 2014?

No.	I will	2014	
		Young Males	Young males in a couple
		Percent	Percent
1	I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun	52.6	50.0
2	I will give her more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her	29.7	33.3
3	I will say to her if we don't have sex we don't really love each other, to try to get her to agree	21.1	19.0
4	I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her	13.5	18.2
5	I will trick her by staying out till very late, and use a story like I have no key to get into my house, or no one can open the door for me, to try to have sex with her	13.2	13.6
6	I will take her to a Karaoke club and do what I want to try to have sex with her	10.8	9.5
7	I will pressure her to watch pornography to try to have sex with her	5.4	9.5
8	I will force her to have sex	5.4	4.8
9	Other	5.4	4.8
Total number		61	38

4.4. Recent Sexual Experience among Wealthier Young People

The number of young couples who had sex with their sweetheart before, and did not plan to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day increased in 2014 (Table 29). One third of couples were still not planning to use a condom with their sweetheart. (Table 30)

Table 29: If not to plan to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, have you (young couple) had sex with your sweetheart before?

No.	Condom use with sweetheart before	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	10	14.1	30	16.7
2	No	61	85.9	180	83.3
Total		71	100	220	100

Table 30: If not planning to have sex on the upcoming Valentine’s Day, have you (young couple) had sex with your sweetheart and used a condom before?

No.	Used condom with sweetheart	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	6	66.7	18	64.3
2	No	3	33.3	10	35.7
Total		9	100	28	100

Turning to sex with sex workers, approximately 10 percent of young males had sex with sex worker in the last three months prior to the study. This was the same as the previous study in 2009. Condom use among these young males was also the same as the previous (around 90 percent). (Table 32)

Table 31: Have you (young male) had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

No.	Sex worker in the past 3 months	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	25	10.4	26	8.8
2	No	215	89.6	268	91.2
Total		240	100.0	294	100

Table 32: If yes (sex with sex worker), did you (young male) use a condom?

No.	Condom use with sex worker	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	21	84.0	22	88.0
2	No	4	16.0	3	12.0
Total		25	100.0	25	100

Approximately 10 percent of young male had “*Bauk*” in the last three months. This was the same as the previous study in 2009. Condom use among these young males was also the same as the previous study (around 90 percent). (Table 34)

Table 33: Have you (young male) had *Bauk* with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

No.	"Bauk" in the past 3 months	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	26	10.8	30	10.6
2	No	214	89.2	227	79.9
3	Don't Know	0	.0	27	9.5
Total		240	100.0	284	100

Table 34: If yes *Bauk*, did you (young male) use a condom?

No.	<i>"Bauk"</i> with condom use	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	23	88.5	23	88.5
2	No	3	11.5	3	11.5
Total		26	100	26	100

Amongst young females, 3.4 percent of them (n=254) said they had sex with anyone before in the last 3 months. Three of them (n=7) did not use a condom. (Table 35 and Table 36)

Table 35: Have you (young female) had sex with anyone before in the last 3 months?

No.	Female sex in the last 3 months	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	0	.0	9	3.4
2	No	0	.0	254	96.6
Total		0	.0	263	100

Table 36: If yes (sex with anyone before in the past 3 months), did you (young male) use a condom?

No.	Female sex with condom	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	0	.0	4	57.1
2	No	0	.0	3	42.9
Total		0	.0	7	100

4.5. Awareness and Perspectives on *Bauk*

Young people were asked their perspectives on *Bauk*. The proportion of respondents who recognized that *Bauk* is gang rape increased (2009: 22.7% vs 2014: 28.1%). However, it decreased two times for the statement “*Bauk* is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex” (2009: 30.8% vs 2014: 13.8%). The comparison of *Bauk* knowledge is broken down by sex. The following Table 38 indicates knowledge of *Bauk* for young males and young females. Young males reported knowledge of *Bauk* was not variant around 30 percent since the previous study, but knowledge of *Bauk* increased amongst young females (2009: 15.5% vs 2014: 25.0%). However, young males (45.8 percent) also reported knowledge of *Bauk* (is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for, and she agreed with us to have sex) compared to this study three time decrease (2009: 45.8% vs 2014: 14.9%). However, these results are not directly comparable because another ‘Don’t Know’ option was added to the answer list in 2014.”

Table 37: Statements about “*Bauk*” which respondents agreed with

No.	"Bauk" awareness	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	<i>Bauk</i> is gang rape	104	22.7	157	28.1
2	<i>Bauk</i> is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex	141	30.8	77	13.8
3	Don't know	213	46.5	309	55.3
4	Other (Specify.....)	0	.0	16	2.9
Total		458	100	559	100

Table 38: Male and female statements about “*Bauk*” which respondents agreed with

No.	"Bauk" awareness between male and female	2009		2014	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1	<i>Bauk</i> is gang rape	29.2	15.6	30.7	25.0
2	<i>Bauk</i> is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex	45.8	14.2	14.9	12.5
3	Don't know	25.0	70.2	51.8	59.4
4	Other (Specify.....)	0.0	0.0	2.6	3.1
Total Number		458		559	

4.6. Wealthier Young People Perspective on Sexual Relationships on the Personal Rights

Table 39 shows whether or not young people feel it is normal and their personal right for them to engage in sexual relationships. More than half (53.8%) of them agreed that it is normal and their personal right to have sex as young people (59.8%) in 2009 study.

Table 39: Do you think sex is your personal right?’

No.	Sex as a personal right	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Agree	241	59.8	344	53.8
2	Disagree	162	40.2	295	46.2
Total		403	100	639	100

4.7. Parents Perspective on their Children on the Upcoming Valentine’s Day

Table 40 shows that all wealthier young people were interviewed about whether their parents or anyone in their family talked with them about sexual issues in the past 3 months. Approximately two thirds (65.8%) answered that their parents or someone in their family were more likely to not talk about sexual issues in the past 3 months. It is almost the same the previous study in 2009 (63.8%). Table 41 reveals that all the interviewees were asked if their parents or anyone in their family think they know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day. Approximately half of them thought that their parents or anyone in their family do not know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day (2009: 53.7% vs 2014: 45.2%).

Table 40: Have your parents or anyone in your family talked with you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

No.	Talked about sexual issues	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	147	36.2	222	34.2
2	No	259	63.8	427	65.8
Total		406	100	649	100

Table 41: Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Parents know about V-Day activity	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Yes	189	46.3	347	54.8
2	No	219	53.7	286	45.2
Total		408	100	633	100

4.8. Wealthier Young People Don’t Know the History of Valentine’s Day

All wealthier young people were asked where Valentine’s Day comes from. Approximately two third (66.6%) of them stated that they knew Valentine's Day comes from the West or Europe compared to the previous study 2009 (61.6%), but two times increased of Don’t know (2009: 15.1% vs 2014: 30.7%). Table 43 reveals where all the respondents had heard about Valentine's Day. More than half (50.3%) of them indicated that they heard from calendar compared to previous study 2009 which was very few in others (calendar).

Table 42: Where does Valentine's Day come from?

No.	Where V-Day comes from	2009		2014	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Western/Europe	262	61.6	437	66.4
2	Hong Kong / South Korea	37	8.6	15	2.3
3	Don't know	64	15.1	202	30.7
4	Other	62	14.6	4	0.6
Total		425	100	658	100

Table 43: How did you hear about Valentine's Day?

Q29.1. How did you hear about
Valentine's Day?

No.	Heard about Valentine's Day	2009	2014
		Percent	Percent
1	Calendar	0.0	50.3
2	Through my friends	37.1	37.0
3	Magazine	15.8	26.8
4	Business advertising	18.0	21.5
5	tell the title of the movie:.....	0.0	13.0
6	Don't know	10.6	6.5
7	Other (movie, TV, Study English, Calendar...)	9.7	6.9
Total number		423	665

V. Discussion

This study provides insight into the intentions of wealthier young people related to love and sexual relationships on Valentine's Day, extending findings from a 2008 qualitative study and 2009 quantitative study. Sexual intercourse, unwanted pregnancy, sexual violence, and sexually transmitted diseases happen every day. However, previous studies suggest that young people may engage in a high incidence of sexual behavior (including unsafe sex and non-consensual sex) on Valentine's Day. In the 2008 study, Peer Ethnographic Research findings showed that more than half of the interviewees (N=16) in the study were happy to engage in sex on Valentine's day and at least a few of them lost their virginity on Valentine's Day. In the 2009 quantitative study most interviewees reported using condoms, reflecting awareness of sexual and reproductive health issues. However, several instances of coercion were also reported.⁵⁸

The current 2014 study surveyed the intentions of 458 wealthier young people related to sexual activity on Valentine's Day.⁵⁹ This study can help guide interventions targeting Valentine's Day and young people's behavior. Stakeholders who may benefit from this study include: school principals, teachers, concerned institutions, local authorities, media, parents, novel writers⁶⁰ and sexual and reproductive health programmers⁶¹; especially, Ministry of Women's Affairs who are concerned about Khmer women and girls.⁶²

The results show some changes from the 2009 quantitative study. Young people were less interested in the upcoming Valentine's Day as a 'special day'; especially, among young people in a couple. Many of them still planned to hang out on the upcoming Valentine's Day, but at least one third of young people

⁵⁸ Soprach, T. (2009a). *Op-Cit*.

⁵⁹ Soprach, T. (2009b). *Op-Cit*.

⁶⁰ described that the novel on 'Regret' was issued before the upcoming Valentine's Day in 2009 by the conservative Amara Publisher in 2009 to raise awareness among young people on impact of premarital sex or sexual involvement during the Valentine's Day. The novel described: "A 16-year-old young female Liny who is a middle wealthy kid was studying at high school. Her girlfriends pressured her to hang out on the Valentine's Day, February 14. She asked her mother who doesn't know Valentine's Day well, and her mother just warned her... 'This is European culture'. She also argued with her mother that she didn't have any boyfriend, but just wanted to hang out with her classmates. At the morning of that day, Liny received a flower branch from her girlfriend Nary who also got from a young man Kuolen who was a very rich kid and studied at the same school. Nary persuaded Liny for Kuolen and then all of them passed the Japanese bridge and relaxed a small hut, and after that Nary left Liny and Kuolen for have sex by putting sexual arousal and sleeping substances inside coconut water and gave it to Liny to drink; meanwhile, Liny suffered from having sex by Kulen... Kulen got in an road accident after leaving that place. Liny got sick in a hospital and when she came back home, her parents were dead and all the things of her heritage were stolen by her relatives with fraud documentation. Liny got nothing, she became a karaoke girl, drug addicted and finally she got infected by HIV/AIDS."

Kho, T. (2009). *REGRET: Souvenir on St. Valentine's Day*, Roman. Amara publisher. Phnom Penh.

⁶¹ Chan, C. and Ben Woods. (2013, Feb. 15). Views Differ on Valentine's Meaning, but Youth Love to Spend. *The Cambodia Daily*.

⁶² MOWA. (Jan. 30, 2014). Report the results of dissemination on Valentine's Day in high schools' Phnom Penh. Department of Women and Education.

preferred to stay at home, an increase since 2009. Gift giving also decreased. While young males may still give flowers, the trend of young couple is to increasingly buy more expensive gifts for their sweetheart. There was not much change in young couple's dating behavior on the upcoming Valentine's Day from the previous study.

The number of young people who said they intended to have sex on Valentine's Day decreased compared to the previous study, but young people in a couple planning to have sex increased (2009: 14.3% vs 2014: 15.8%). In this group of young people in a couple, the percent of people who do not plan to use a condom increased two times. Those planning their first sexual experience was around the same (around 40 percent). Correlations were observed between young people who plan for sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day and those who think the upcoming Valentine's Day is a special day.

The study showed that the potential for non-consensual sex is high. The proportion of young men in couples who plan for sex even if their girlfriend/new girlfriend does not agree to sex has decreased, but is still more than 50% (2009: 66.6% vs 2014: 52.6%). The various ways young males intended to pressure their girlfriend for sex was more varied than the previous study. For example, *"I will say to her if we don't have sex we don't really love each other, to try to get her to agree"*, and *"I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her"*, only appeared this upcoming Valentine's Day 2014. Amongst young males and young males in a couple, many people said: *"I will give her a more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her"*.

Approximately half of young people in the study reported that they were not aware of their sexual rights and did not plan to use condoms.

Approximately the same number of parents talked with their children about Valentine's Day as in 2009. Around half of the parents did not know what their children would do on the upcoming Valentine's Day. At least one third of young people still do not know where Valentine's Day come from.

This suggests that sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS experts⁶³ should be concerned that young people's intentions regarding condom use and knowledge of sexual rights puts them at risk of sexual transmitted infection and HIV/AIDS, and young women at risk of unsafe abortions. But rights activists commends that sexual relationships among young people are not just on February 14, nor is unique to Valentine's Day, and this expanding of sexual freedom is not unique to Cambodia.⁶⁴

⁶³ Cockroft M., Svaypich S. and Thara M. (2012, Feb. 15). Remorse on Valentine's Day. *The Phnom Penh Post*. Retrieved February 7, 2014. <http://www.postkhmer.com/component/content/article/73233?lang=en>

⁶⁴ Kunila K. (2013, Feb. 15). View: How the Kingdom could show more love. *The Phnom Penh Post*. Retrieved February 7, 2014. <http://www.phnompenhpost.com/7days/view-how-kingdom-could-show-more-love>

As for non-consensual sex, the social experts should be concerned about cheating or forcing by economic intention or buying expensive gifts in order to pressure young women into sex on Valentine's Day. A "Bauk" case appeared among young males who have experience with their male peers (in male group). Other research also suggests that the short term impact of forced sexual relationships among young people may put them at risk of suicide when their partner walked away; especially amongst young women.^{65,66}

With Valentine's Day becoming more popular in Cambodia, some people argue that it is a fault of Western culture. Some people in the study misinterpreted the meaning of Valentine's Day history, stating that February 14 is no longer just about exchanging messages of love. On St. Valentine's, it is the day that you show your friend or loved one that you care by sending poems and simple gifts such as flowers.⁶⁷ The results suggest that young people may use Valentine's Day as a catalyst for sex. But it could also be argued that it is up to the Cambodian government to create our own culture rather than just blaming.⁶⁸ Many young people are changing the Khmer term they use for Valentine's Day from "Thgnay Boun Sangsar", which literally translates to "Sweetheart celebration day" to "Tivea Neay Kday Sroalanh", which translates to "Loving day". I believe this is a positive change, as it moves away from a term commonly associated with sex to a term which signifies more general love.⁶⁹

VI. Conclusion and Recommendations

These Valentine's Day quantitative study findings give more quantified information to compare to the previous study in 2009, and suggest that wealthier young people still do not understand the background of Valentine's Day clearly. Some visible activities on Valentine's Day, including the proportion of young people who consider it a 'special day', gift giving, and people's intentions to hang out decreased. But less visible activities including people's plans for sex, non-consensual sex, and parent's low knowledge of their children's intentions were little changed from the previous study. The findings reveal a concerning

⁶⁵ Suicide attempts (4.3% total, and 1.7% male, 5.5% female) of total population (N=2690). RUPP. (2012). *Cambodian Mental Health Survey 2012*. Department of Psychology.

⁶⁶ The media is attempting to raise some awareness about possible negative consequences related to sexual activity on Valentines Day: "...A Deputy Chief of the Intervention Police Unit in the Ministry of Interior said that at least 50 young people came to Chroy Changvar and Preah Monivong bridges to commit suicide before and after the Valentine's Day Festival Day. And the most victims were young females who said that their husbands or boyfriends had been unfaithful to them and that life was no longer worth living and they jump from the bridges into the river, they were picked up by police officers there and after that the police officers sent them home. He also pointed out that during the Valentine's Day, his police launched are on call 24 hours a day." Kongkea, B. (2009, Feb. 15-21). Valentine's Days Affects Khmer Culture. *Cambodia Weekly*. p. 12.

⁶⁷ Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.history.com/content/valentine/history-of-valentine-s-day>

⁶⁸ Soprach. T., (2013, May 16). Culture and tradition at risk. *The Phnom Penh Post*. Retrieved February 7, 2014 from <http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/culture-and-traditions-risk>

⁶⁹ MOWA. (Jan. 30, 2014). *Op. Cit.*

low proportion of young people in couples who plan to use condoms, and low knowledge of sexual rights. This suggests that interventions should focus on sexual rights and condom use education in general, and specifically before Valentine's Day:

- Increase awareness-raising on the issues surrounding Valentine's Day, and SRH in general, gender concept, such as sexual consent and safer sex.
- SRH and HIV programs among young people should target interventions before and on Valentine's Day in accordance with this study's findings of all the target urban areas including in schools and universities in Cambodia.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Telling Story 1: Remorse on Valentine's Day

WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2012

MELISSA COCKROFT AND SIV SVAYPICH

THE PHNOM PENH POST'S KHMER EDITION

Phnom Penh: Nowadays, Valentine's Day is celebrated by a lot of Cambodian youth as a day for fun, hanging out with your friends and love. But what does love mean? Some Cambodian youth confuse love as meaning having sex with their boyfriend or girlfriend for the first time on Valentine's Day to prove they really love each other. But is this real love?

Srey Leak (not her real name) is a young woman who called Marie Stopes International Cambodia hotline, and she wants to share her Valentine's Day story with you, to avoid you having the same fate as her.

“My name is Srey Leak. I want to tell you my past experience of Valentine's Day. I moved to Phnom Penh in 2009 from Kampong Speu province. My parents had worked hard to save money for me to come to Phnom Penh to study finance at university. I was considered a beautiful girl with big brown eyes, and shiny long hair. Everyone said I looked like Sokun Nisa. I was popular among the students and I had a lot of friends. I also had a boyfriend who was a student at my university. Sometimes he asked me to have sex with him, but he was a gentle and when I always refused he never forced me.

On Valentine's Day in 2010, my friends and my boyfriend and I arranged to meet at Soriya Mall and then drive our moto bikes around and stop in the park to sit and chat. Then we all went together to have suki soup for dinner, my boyfriend stopped to buy me a rose on the way. It was a lot of fun, laughing and joking with my friends and my boyfriend. At the end of the dinner after my friends had gone home and it was just my boyfriend and I left, my boyfriend told me he loved me and gave me a present. It was a small diamond necklace. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever received. No one had ever given me such a beautiful gift. I thanked him very much for the gift. It was then that he told me that he wanted for us to express our love for each other by spending the night at the guesthouse. I felt afraid and didn't want to go. I told him I wanted it to be special to wait until I was married but he said that we loved each other and it was Valentine's Day. I tried to refuse but then he became angry and sad and threatened to break up with me. I didn't want to break up. I loved him. So I agreed to go to the guest house with him and spend the night together.

I didn't like that he had forced me to spend the night at the guesthouse but this was love, right? And he never forced me to do it again so I didn't think about it anymore. Things carried on as normal after that night. I continued with my studies and we would occasionally meet for dinner or sometimes even a movie at Lux Cinema.

One or two months after Valentine's Day I began to miss my period. Sometimes I would also feel tired and sick. I began to worry. My friends suggested I should go to the pharmacy and buy the pregnancy test kit. It was then that I found out that I was pregnant.

I didn't know anything about pregnancy or contraception. I had heard about Number 1 condom but when I asked my boyfriend at the guest house on Valentine's Day he said if we really loved each other, we didn't need to use condom and I should stop worrying and I should trust him. I felt so ashamed that now I was unmarried and pregnant. When I told my boyfriend that I was pregnant he became angry. He told me that he didn't love me anymore, he didn't want a baby and that he couldn't support me. I felt very alone. I didn't know what to do. I went to the pharmacy and bought some unregistered pills to make me have abortion. The pharmacist did not tell me how I should take the medicine. After I took the medicine it made me very sick and I had heavy bleeding for many days and I got a fever and infection. I learnt about the Marie Stopes hotline from a friend and called the hotline to see what I should do. The friendly operator on the phone told me where to go to get a health service. When I got to the hospital the infection was so bad that I had to stay for 1 week in the hospital. Afterwards I felt very weak and found it difficult to concentrate. Because I had to spend a lot of money on health care I could no longer afford my school fees so I had to stop my studies. Now I cannot fulfil my dream to work as a finance officer in a bank. Now I have to work hard selling groceries at the small stand in front of my parents house to support my parents who are getting old," said Srey Leak.

Mrs La Somaly, midwife and hotline counsellor at Marie Stopes International Cambodia, says that Srey Leak's story is common among Cambodian youth today. "I feel great pity for Srey Leak and other young Cambodian women because if they had learned that they had choices, they could have protected themselves against unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion on Valentine's Day if they had known. Marie Stopes International Cambodia has a Pregnancy Options and Advice Hotline that women can call to get information and advice if they become pregnant. Wherever you are located in Cambodia, you can call to the confidential Marie Stopes International Pregnancy Advice and Options hotline and our friendly hotline counsellors can help you and answer your questions about how to prevent unwanted pregnancy and find safe health service.

Srey Leak has a final bit of advice for all readers: "I want to share my story with other Cambodian women to provide you with advice so that your life will not be difficult like mine and so that you can follow your dreams. I want to advise young Cambodian women that not everything in life always goes to

plan and that you should be prepared if things don't go to plan. Cambodian women should be strong and not allow their partners to force them to have sex. If your partner really loves you he will wait because true love can wait. But if you and your partner both think it is really the right time to have sex, make sure you are prepared to protect yourself from unplanned pregnancies and sexually diseases. To be a smart Cambodian woman you should empower yourself by informing yourself about your sexual and reproductive health options. That way you can protect yourself and plan for a bright and happy future.”

For further information of Pregnancy Advice and Options or to locate one of Marie Stopes centre please contact Marie Stopes hotline on: 012 999 002 (Monday - Friday 8am – 8pm, Saturday-Sunday 8am-5pm).

Fleeting Valentine's Day trysts in the confines of cheap guesthouses are not the Cambodian way, and young couples should love every day – provided they make a life-long commitment to their partners, Prime Minister Hun Sen said yesterday. “It is not our culture,” he said. “In Cambodia, we don't have only February 14 as a day for loving, we have 365 days, not just boyfriend and girlfriend, but also their parents” he said.⁷⁰

Additional reporting by May Thara.

Telling Story 2: Nightmare on Valentine's Day

WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2013

SET KIMSOEUN

THE PHNOM PENH POST'S KHMER EDITION

Phnom Penh: “Being too happy and obsessed for only a moment destroyed what I had kept since I was a baby, and left an unforgettable remorse I will feel my whole life”. These are the words of a young girl who fell into a pitfall of love with a boyfriend this past Valentine's Day. Vatey (not her real name) said she was a stupid girl for what happened, and that she hated herself for losing her virginity due to only a few sweet words from her boyfriend.

Vatey, who is preparing to take the grade 12 high school-leaving examination this year, said she had exchanging love notes with the boy, a similar age youth who studies at a different high school, since mid-November 2012. They were introduced by friends who asked them to have a meal together at a restaurant. She recounts her story below:

After we met each other, we began communicating closely in only a few months. He showed feelings that he loved me so much. He always tried to do everything to make me happy and I started to be interested in him more and more.

⁷⁰ Retrieved February 7, 2014. <http://www.postkhmer.com/component/content/article/73233?lang=en>

We went out together often and about two weeks before Valentine's Day, he spoke frankly to me, saying that he loved me as much as his life, and he wanted me to live with him for his whole life. When I heard that, I was so excited and my feelings were flying in the sky because I had never heard such a word or love confession before. Suddenly my mind become completely soft and showed my feelings of love toward him too. We became closer and closer, unable to be separated for even a minute. We spent all our time chatting together and went out to have meals together almost non-stop. Even at night, we phoned and chatted until midnight.

Not so long after this, Valentine's Day came. I was nervous because I didn't know what to do on that day. Every day, he and I became sweeter and sweeter, and on the last few days before Valentine's Day, my boyfriend looked very strange. He said he wanted to stay with me without anyone else. I didn't know what he was imagining. He asked me to go to the provinces with only him. He told me that he wanted to build our love stronger and stronger, and that he would come to propose to me to be his wife in accordance with the tradition and law.

I kept refusing, and this made him angry. In fact, I wanted to spend time with him, but I thought it would not be appropriate. I told him that I would spend the whole day on Valentine's Day with him. When Valentine's Day arrived, he reminded me of my promise, which made it too difficult for me to refuse.

On Valentine's Day he told me that he loved me so much and asked me whether I loved him back. And if I loved him, to what extent? He said he wanted to see the extent of my love to him. At first I didn't understand his words, but then he said honestly that he wanted to sleep with me. He wanted me to make love to him. When hearing this word, I was so surprised and didn't dare to reply to his request at all, although he asked me several times.

On February 14, he brought me to a party to drink with his friends. He asked me to keep drinking, until I was so drunk. He asked again for me to make love to him. He asked me to sleep with him at a guesthouse but I refused. He seemed to be so unhappy with me. He wouldn't talk to me. Then, seeing that I was so drunk, he carried me to sleep in his friend's room and he seized that opportunity to hug and kiss me forcefully, even with my refusal. That day was the day I lost my virginity, which I had maintained for almost 20 years.

Now, even though he still loves me, I have so much remorse. At the moment, my feelings are very complicated. I don't know what to do. I am afraid that when my parents know about this, they will be angry. What would they think about me? I am afraid he will leave me because he has already got my body. Most serious, I am afraid of being pregnant. What is the best way should I deal with this?⁷¹

⁷¹ Retrieved February 7, 2014. <http://www.postkhmer.com/index.php/lifestyle/culture/94256-2013-02-27-02-47-54>

Appendices

Appendix 2: Timeframe and Activity Plan

Activities	Jan. 2014				Feb. 2014									
	1 8	24 - 26	27- 29	30 Jan. - 1 Feb.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Literature review and protocol was continue from quantitative research on Valentine's Day 2009														
Design questionnaires (draft in Khmer for training)														
Training research volunteers and pre-test														
Design questionnaires (final both English and Khmer)														
Data collection														
Design variable in SPSS and Data entry														
Data cleaning and recode new variable relations														
Data Analysis, Report writing, Translation														
Presentation at The Khemarak University														
Final Report and Publish in Khmer and English versions	February 10, 2014													

Appendix 3: INFORM CONSENT AND QUESTIONNAIRES
Follow up: Activity, Love and Sexual Relationships and Experiences
of Young People Regarding Valentine’s Day in Phnom Penh,
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 24-26, 2014
Independent Research Study
Code Number of Respondent:

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(Office use only)

CONFIDENTIAL

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	1 st attempt	RESULT							
Date	/ / 14								
Finished up to question number(s) in case termination	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>								
Interviewer ID Code	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>					<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>			

Result Code	
-	1
Completed.....	2
- Incomplete-respondent termination.....	3
- Incomplete-third party (third-person) interruption.....	4
- Respondent refusal.....	

Introduction:
Hello, I am (use your name)..... working as a research volunteer for an independent research study about the upcoming Valentine’s Day, February 14, 2014.

We are here to interview young people who are aged 15-24 in Phnom Penh. We want you to answer some questions about your love and sexual relationships and the experience of your life. Please do not be scared or worried because this is only about youth behavior. Everything you say will be confidential. We will not let anybody know your personal information.

You can refuse to give answers to any questions you don’t want to answer, or you can ask me to clarify anything I would like to say thank you for your cooperation. The questionnaire should only take 5 minutes.

I want to remind you that all your answers are very important. So, I would like to ask you to answer truthfully. This will allow me and my team to get good information for our independent research study. Do you have any questions for me?

If you agree to proceed, please sign here:

Your signature is very important to confirm your agreement.

Thanks very much again. You can start completing the questionnaire now.

Questionnaire: Self-administered for young male (couple)

1. How old are you?
2. Do you always come here with your girlfriend to relax?
 Yes (*Please skip to No. 4*) No
3. If no, where else do you and your girlfriend go for relaxation?
4. Do you think the upcoming Valentine's Day February 14 will be a really special day for you and your girlfriend?
 Yes No
5. Will you give any gift to your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 7*)
6. If yes, (*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Flowers Clothes Jewelry Toys
 Others (Specify.....)
7. Where you want to go with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Modern market cinema Bak Khaeng Kean Svay
 Bubble tea Karaoke Club/entertainment Parks
 Hut/Guest house/hotel Stay at home Other (Specify.....)
8. Will you have lunch or dinner with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No
9. Will you go to any Karaoke club or club/entertainment with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day? Yes No
10. Will you be able to have sex with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 18*)
11. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, will it be your first time for you and your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No
12. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, but if your girlfriend does not agree, what will you do?
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 I will give her more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her
 I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her
 I will trick her by staying out til very late, and use a story like I have no key to get into my house, or no one can open the door for me, to try to have sex with her

- I will say to her if we don't have sex we don't really love each other, to try to get her to agree
- I will take her to a Karaoke club and do what I want to try to have sex with her
- I will pressure her to watch pornography to try to have sex with her
- I will force her to have sex
- No, I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun
- Other (Specify.....)

13. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, will you use a condom with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes No

14. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, but your girlfriend denies not having sex with, with whom will you be able to have sex on this upcoming Valentine's Day? *(Please tick only one)*

- Other girlfriend who might be found the upcoming Valentine's Day
- Sex worker *(Skip to No. 16)*
- Bauk (bauk Srey or York Srey Teuv, Take to a female sex worker to, bauk with your friends) (Skip to No. 17)*
- Other (Specify.....)

15. **Continuing question No. 14.** If you are able to have sex with your other girlfriend that day, will you use condom? Yes No

16. **Continuing question No. 14.** If you are able to have sex with sex worker that day, will you use condom? Yes No

17. **Continuing question No. 14.** If you are able to "Bauk Srey" that day, will you use condom?

- Yes No

18. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, have you had sex with your girlfriend before?

- Yes No *(If no, skip to No.20)*

19. If yes, did you use a condom the last time you had sex with your girlfriend?

- Yes No

20. Have you had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

- Yes No *(If don't know, skip to No. 22)*

21. If yes, did you use a condom with sex worker? Yes No

22. Have you had *Bauk* with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

- Yes No *(If don't know, skip to No. 24)* Don't know *(If Don't no, skip to No. 24)*

23. If yes, did you use a condom? Yes No

24. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

- Bauk* is gang rape.
- Bauk* is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex.
- Don't know
- Other (Specify.....)

25. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

- Sexual relationships between young people is normal and their personal right

- Agree
- Disagree

26. Have your parents or anyone in you family talked you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

- Yes
- No

27. Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes
- No

28. Where does Valentine's Day come from? *(Please tick only one)*

- Western/Europe
- Hong Kong
- South Korea
- Thailand
- Other (Specify.....)
- Don't know

29. How did you hear about Valentine's Day? *(Answers can be more than one)*

- Magazine/news
- Calendar
- Business advertising
- Movie (tell the title of the movie:.....)
- Through my friends
- Don't know
- Other (Specify.....)

30. Telling your story or your friend story which involved in Valentine's Day in the past 5 years, please write down or *(If you want to tell, please give us your phone number or call this number for young males.....)*

.....

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

Questionnaire: Self-Adminstrated for young male (Non-couple)

1. How old are you?
2. Do you always come here with your friends to relax? Yes (*Please skip to No. 4*) No
3. If no, where else will you and your friends visit for relaxation?
4. Do you think the upcoming Valentine's Day February 14 will be a special day for you?
 Yes No
5. Will you give a gift to someone you love this upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 6*)
6. If yes, (*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Flowers Clothes Jewelry Toys
 Others (Specify.....)
7. Where you want to go with your friends on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Modern market cinema Bak Khaeng Kean Svay
 Bubble tea Karaoke Club/entertainment Parks
 Hut/Guest house/hotel Stay at home Other (Specify.....)
8. Will you are able to have sex upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 15*)
9. **Continuing question No. 8.** If yes, will it be your first time for you on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No
10. **Continuing question No. 8.** If yes, with whom will you be able to have sex on this upcoming Valentine's Day? (*Please tick only one*)
 Other girlfriend who might be found the upcoming Valentine's Day
 With a sex worker (*Skip to No. 13*)
 Bauk (*bauk Srey or York Srey Teuv, Take to a female sex worker to, bauk with your friends*) (*Skip to No. 14*)
 Other (Specify.....)
11. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, but if your other girlfriend does not agree, what will you do?
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 I will give her more expensive gift with the aim of having sex with her
 I will pressure her by taking her far from town to try to have sex with her

- I will trick her by staying out til very late, and use a story like I have no key to get into my house, or no one can open the door for me, to try to have sex with her
- I will say to her if we don't have sex we don't really love each other, to try to get her to agree
- I will take her to a Karaoke club and do what I want to try to have sex with her
- I will pressure her to watch pornography to try to have sex with her
- I will force her to have sex
- No, I will ignore sex, and just hang around for fun
- Other (Specify.....)

12. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, will you use a condom with your other girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes No

13. **Continuing question No. 14.** If you are able to have sex with sex worker that day, will you use condom? Yes No

14. **Continuing question No. 14.** If you are able to "Bauk Srey" that day, will you use condom?

- Yes No

15. Have you had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

- Yes No *(If no, skip to No. 17)*

16. If yes, did you use a condom? Yes No

17. Have you had *Bauk* with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

- Yes No *(If no, skip to No. 19)* Don't know *(If no, skip to No. 19)*

18. If yes, did you use a condom? Yes No

19. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

- Bauk* is gang rape.
- Bauk* is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex.
- Don't know
- Other (Specify.....)

20. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

- Sexual relationships between young people is normal and their personal right

- Agree Disagree

21. Have your parents or anyone in you family talked you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

- Yes No

22. Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes No

23. Where does Valentine's Day come from? *(Please tick only one)*

- Western/Europe Hong Kong South Korea Thailand

- Other (Specify.....) Don't know

24. How did you hear about Valentine's Day? *(Answers can be more than one)*

- Magazine/news
 Business advertising
 Movie (tell the title of the movie:.....)
 Through my friends
 Don't know
 Other (Specify.....)

25. Telling your story or your friend story which involved in Valentine's Day in the past 5 years, please write down or *(If you want to tell, please give us your phone number or call this number for young males.....)*

.....

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

Questionnaire: Self-Administrated for young female (couple)

1. How old are you?

2. Do you always come here with your boyfriend to relax?

- Yes *(Please skip to No. 4)* No

3. If no, where else do you and your boyfriend visit for relaxation?

4. Do you think this upcoming Valentine's Day February 14 will be a special day for you and your boyfriend? Yes No

5. Will you give any gift to your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes No *(If no, skip to No. 7)*

6. If yes, *(Please tick answers which can be more than one)*

- Flowers Clothes Jewelry Toys

Others (Specify.....)

7. Where you want to go with your boyfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

(Please tick answers which can be more than one)

Modern market cinema Bak Khaeng Kean Svay

Bubble tea Karaoke Club/entertainment Parks

Hut/Guest house/hotel Stay at home Other (Specify.....)

8. Will you have lunch or dinner with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes No

9. Will you go to any Karaoke club or club/entertainment centre with your boyfriend upcoming

Valentine's Day? Yes No

10. Will you are able to have sex with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes No *(If no, skip to No.15)*

11. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, will it be your first time for you and your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes No

12. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, will you use a condom with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes No

13. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, but your boyfriend denies not having sex with, with whom will you be able to have sex on this upcoming Valentine's Day? *(Please tick only one)*

Other boyfriend who might be found the upcoming Valentine's Day

Other (Specify.....)

14. If yes, will you use a condom with your other boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes No

15. **Continuing question No. 10.** If yes, have you had sex with your boyfriend before?

Yes No *(If no, skip to No.17)*

16. If yes, did you use condom at the last sex with your boyfriend? Yes No

17. Have you had sex with anyone before in the last 3 months?

Yes No *(If no, skip to No. 19)*

18. If yes, did you use condom?

Yes No

19. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

Bauk is gang rape.

Bauk is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex.

Don't know

Other (Specify.....)

20. Please tick which statement you agree with: (*Please tick only one*)

- Sexual relationships between young people is normal and their personal right

Agree

Disagree

21. Have your parents or anyone in your family talked you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

Yes

No

22. Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes

No

23. Where does Valentine's Day come from? (*Please tick only one*)

Western/Europe

Hong Kong

South Korea

Thailand

Other (Specify.....) Don't know

24. How did you hear about Valentine's Day? (*Answers can be more than one*)

Magazine/news

Business advertising

Movie (tell the title of the movie:.....)

Through my friends

Don't know

Other (Specify.....)

25. Telling your story or your friend story which involved in Valentine's Day in the past 5 years, please write down or (*If you want to tell, please give us your phone number or call this number for young males.....*)

.....

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

Questionnaire: Self-administrated for young female (Non-couple)

1. How old are you?
2. Do you always come here with your friends to relax? Yes (*Please skip to No. 4*) No
3. If no, where else you and your friends visit for relaxation?
4. Do you think upcoming Valentine's Day February 14 is a special day for you?
 Yes No
5. Will you give any gift to anyone you love upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 7*)
6. If yes, (*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Flowers Clothes Jewelry Toys
 Others (Specify.....)
7. Where you want to go with your friends on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)
 Modern market cinema Bak Khaeng Kean Svay
 Bubble tea Karaoke Club/entertainment Parks
 Hut/Guest house/hotel Stay at home Other (Specify.....)
8. Will you are able to have sex upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 11*)
9. **Continuing question No. 8.** If yes, will it be your first time for you on the upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No
10. **Continuing question No. 8.** If yes, will you use a condom during having sex upcoming Valentine's Day?
 Yes No
11. **Continuing question No. 8.** If no, have you had sex in the last 3 months?
 Yes No (*If no, skip to No. 13*)
12. If yes, did you condom? Yes No
13. Please tick which statement you agree with: (*Please tick only one*)
 Bauk is gang rape.
 Bauk is not rape if it is with a sex worker, because we already paid for and she agreed with us to have sex.
 Don't know
 Other (Specify.....)

14. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*

- Sexual relationships between young people is normal and their personal right

- Agree Disagree

15. Have your parents or anyone in you family talked you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

- Yes No

16. Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

- Yes No

17. Where does Valentine's Day come from? *(Please tick only one)*

- Western/Europe Hong Kong South Korea Thailand
 Other (Specify.....) Don't know

18. How did you hear about Valentine's Day? *(Answers can be more than one)*

- Magazine/news
 Business advertising
 Movie (tell the title of the movie:.....)
 Through my friends
 Don't know
 Other (Specify.....)

19. Telling your story or your friend story which involved in Valentine's Day in the past 5 years, please write down or *(If you want to tell, please give us your phone number or call this number for young males.....)*

.....
.....

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY