

**LOVE AND SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS:  
EXPERIENCES AND PLANS OF MIDDLE CLASS YOUNG  
PEOPLE REGARDING THE UPCOMING VALENTINE'S DAY  
IN PHNOM PENH IN 2009  
(A Quantitative Study)**

① មករា - January		② កុម្ភៈ - February	
បុស្ស័រ - ម៉ាឃី		ម៉ាឃី - ដំបូន	
1	T ព្រហ	៦	ខែបុស្ស ចូលឆ្នាំសកល
2	F សុក្រ	៧	កើតខែបុស្ស
3	S សៅរ៍	៨	ថ្ងៃសីល
4	S អាទិត្យ	៩	
5	M ចន្ទ	១០	
6	T អង្គារ	១១	
7	W ពុធ	១២	ទិវាជ័យជំនះលើមេមតូរ៉ង់ ក្នុងសាសន៍
8	T ព្រហ	១៣	
9	F សុក្រ	១៤	ថ្ងៃកោរ
10	S សៅរ៍	១៥	ពេញបូណ៌មី
11	S អាទិត្យ	១	រោច
12	M ចន្ទ	២	
13	T អង្គារ	៣	
14	W ពុធ	៤	
15	T ព្រហ	៥	
1	S អាទិត្យ	៧	កើតខែមាយ
2	M ចន្ទ	៨	ថ្ងៃសីល
3	T អង្គារ	៩	
4	W ពុធ	១០	
5	T ព្រហ	១១	
6	F សុក្រ	១២	
7	S សៅរ៍	១៣	
8	S អាទិត្យ	១៤	ថ្ងៃកោរ
9	M ចន្ទ	១៥	ពេញបូណ៌មី (មាយបុត្រា)
10	T អង្គារ	១	រោច
11	W ពុធ	២	
12	T ព្រហ	៣	
13	F សុក្រ	៤	
14	S សៅរ៍	៥	Valentine's Day
15	S អាទិត្យ	៦	

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## Abstract

A Cross-sectional design was chosen for this descriptive quantitative study on the upcoming Valentine's Day in 2009. Thus, cluster sampling was used primarily for administrative convenience. The questionnaires are separated into four categories of the population aged 15-24 years old and wealthier young people (n=458) 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 were used.

These Valentine's Day quantitative study findings give more quantified information to the 2008 qualitative study, which recognized that middle class young people (n=458) do not understand the background of Valentine's Day. Approximately two third (61.6%) of them have known only the festival coming from Western or European culture, but nearly a third (29.7%) of them stated that they didn't know or gave a broad answer (World or no idea). More than half (52.2%) of them indicated that they heard from media, business advertising, calendar and so on. While, more than a third (37.1%) of them knew through their friends, and 10.6 percent of them knew nothing about Valentine's Day. Due to the misunderstanding of the Valentine's Day history, middle class young people use this festival to involve themselves in sex. This current study was therefore designed to seek to answer the research question:

*Do middle class young people in Phnom Penh plan to be sexually active on the upcoming Valentine's Day?*

In the results, 12.4 percent of all respondents answered that they expect to be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, and more than 14.3 percent of young people in a couple answered that they expect to be able to have sex with their sweethearts on that day too, and a few couples plan not to use a condom. Meanwhile, More than a third (39.5%) of the young people in a couple surveyed (n=38) stated that it will be the first time for them to have sexual intercourse. And the other two thirds (66.6%) of young males in couple (n=25) will pressure or force their girlfriend for having sex using many devices, if they do not agree. And at least seven percent of young males who answered that they expect to be able to have sex are open to being involved in *Bauk* on the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Even though more than half (59.8%) of all interviewees mentioned that they agreed that it is normal and their personal right to have sexual relationships between young people and are therefore more likely to be aware of sexual reproductive health, they are consequently probably at high risk of non-consensual sex, committing suicide, contracting sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and AIDS if they will be able to have sex on the Valentine's Day festival. On the other hand, approximately two thirds (63.8%) answered that their parents or anyone in their family were more likely to not talk about sexual issues in the past 3 months. More than half (53.7%) of them thought that their parents or anyone in their family don't know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Attention should be given to issues around sexual consent, and sexual reproductive health and HIV/AIDS programs among young people in urban areas of Cambodia should target interventions before and on Valentine's Day in accordance with this study's findings.

**ស្នេហា និងទំនាក់ទំនងដ៏ជិតស្និទ្ធ : បទពិសោធន៍ និងការរៀបចំផែនការរបស់យុវវ័យ  
ដែលមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិបង្ករបស់ទេវត្រីក្នុងឆ្នាំ២០០៩  
ដែលនឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះ  
(ការសិក្សាបែបបរិមាណវិស័យមួយ)**

**ដោយ: លោក គុន សុវណ្ណា អនុបណ្ឌិតផ្នែកសុខភាពសាធារណៈ  
អ្នកសិក្សាស្រាវជ្រាវឯករាជ្យ  
ឆ្នាំ២០១០**

**មូលនិយមសង្ខេប**

វិធីសាស្ត្ររៀបចំស្រាវជ្រាវក្នុងពេលកំណត់ជាក់លាក់ណាមួយ ត្រូវបានជ្រើសរើសយកសិក្សាបែប  
បរិមាណវិស័យ ពិពណ៌នាសំរាប់ថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារនៅឆ្នាំ២០០៩ ដែលនឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះ ។  
ហេតុនេះហើយ ការជើសរើសគំរូសំណាកជាក្រុមៗតាមតំបន់គោលដៅ ត្រូវបានយកមកប្រើជាដំបូងសំរាប់ជួប  
សំភាសន៍ផ្ទាល់តែម្តង ។ កំរងសំណួរបានចែកចេញជាបួនប្រភេទសំរាប់ ក្រុមយុវវ័យអាយុចាប់ពី១៥ ដល់២៤ឆ្នាំ  
ដែលមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិបង្ក (ចំនួនសារុប ៤៥៨នាក់) រស់នៅទីក្រុងភ្នំពេញគឺយុវវ័យជាប្រុសមានគូរសង្សារ  
យុវវ័យជាប្រុសគ្មានគូរសង្សារ យុវវ័យជានារីមានគូរសង្សារ និងយុវវ័យជានារីគ្មានគូរសង្សារ ។ ដោយសារសំនួរ  
អាចធ្វើអោយប៉ះពាល់អារម្មណ៍របស់អ្នកផ្តល់ចម្លើយ ដូច្នេះហើយទើបប្រើវិធីសាស្ត្រផ្តល់កំរងសំណួរទៅពួកគាត់  
បំពេញដោយខ្លួនឯង ។

លទ្ធផលដែលបានមកពីការសិក្សាបែបបរិមាណវិស័យ បានផ្តល់ព័ត៌មានពីបរិមាណអោយកាន់តែច្បាស់  
ថែមទៀតទៅលើការសិក្សាតាមបែបគុណភាពវិស័យកាលពីឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ។ បានទទួលស្គាល់ថាយុវវ័យដែលមាន  
ទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិបង្ក (ចំនួនសារុប ៤៥៨នាក់) យល់មិនច្បាស់អំពីសារៈសំខាន់នៃថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារទេ ។ ប្រហែលជាង  
ពីរភាគបី (៦១,៦%) នៃពួកគេគ្រាន់តែដឹងថាថ្ងៃបុណ្យនេះហូរចូលមកពីវប្បធម៌បរទេសលោកខាងលិច ឬអឺរ៉ុប  
ប៉ុន្តែជិតមួយភាគបី (២៩,៧%) នៃពួកគេបានបញ្ជាក់ថាមិនដឹងមកពីណាទេ ឬក៏ឆ្លើយយ៉ាងទូលំទូលាយថាពិភព  
លោក ឬក៏គ្មានយោបល់ ។ ច្រើនជាងពាក់កណ្តាល (៥២,២%) នៃក្រុមយុវវ័យដែលបានផ្តល់ការសំភាសន៍បានរៀប  
រាប់ថា ពួកគេបានដឹងពីថ្ងៃនោះ តាមរយៈសារព័ត៌មាន ការផ្សាយពាណិជ្ជកម្ម ប្រតិទិន និងការឃើញអ្វីៗ  
ផ្សេងទៀត ។ នៅពេលនោះដែរជាងមួយភាគបី (៣៧,១%) នៃពួកគេបានដឹងតាមរយៈមិត្តភក្តិ និង១០,៦ភាគរយ  
ទៀត មិនបានដឹងអ្វីទាំងអស់អំពីថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារនេះ ។ ដោយសារមានការយល់ច្រឡំនូវប្រវត្តិនៃថ្ងៃបុណ្យ

សង្ស័យនេះបានធ្វើអោយយុវវ័យដែលមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិបង្ករមួយចំនួនធំទាញផលប្រយោជន៍ ឬឆក់ឱកាសពីថ្ងៃនោះ ដើម្បីធ្វើការរួមភេទនៅថ្ងៃនោះតែម្តង។ ហេតុដូច្នេះហើយ បានជាការសិក្សានេះរៀបចំឡើង ដើម្បីឆ្លើយនូវសំណួរ ស្រាវជ្រាវមួយដែលសួរថា:

*តើយុវវ័យដែលមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិបង្ករនៅទីក្រុងភ្នំពេញ មានផែនការរួមភេទនៅថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារដែល នឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះដែរ ឬទេ?*

ជាលទ្ធផល ១២,៤ភាគរយនៃយុវវ័យដែលបានផ្តល់ចំណើយទាំងអស់ នឹងអាចរួមភេទនៅថ្ងៃបុណ្យ សង្សារដែលនឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះ ហើយសំរាប់យុវវ័យដែលមានគូរសង្សារ គឺមាន ១៤,៣ភាគរយ មានផែនការរួមភេទជាមួយសង្សាររបស់ពួកគេនៅថ្ងៃនោះដែរ ហើយមានតែ៣ ទៅ៤គូរទេ ដែលមានផែនការ មិនប្រើប្រាស់ស្រោមអនាម័យ។ នៅពេលជាមួយគ្នានោះដែរ ជាងមួយភាគបី(៣៩,៥%) នៃយុវវ័យមានគូរ សង្សារដែលមានផែនការរួមភេទ (ចំនួនសរុប ៣៨នាក់) បានរាយការណ៍ថាវានឹងអាចជាលើកទីមួយហើយសំរាប់ ពួកគេ។ ហើយពីភាគបី(៦៦,៦%) នៃយុវវ័យជាប្រុសដែលមានគូរសង្សារ(ចំនួនសរុប ២៥នាក់) មានផែនការ ដាក់សំពោលទៅលើ ឬបង្ខំមិត្តស្រីរបស់ពួកគេដើម្បីរួមភេទជាមួយមធ្យោបាយមួយចំនួន ប្រសិនបើមិត្តស្រីរបស់ ពួកគេមិនយល់ព្រម។ ហើយយ៉ាងហោចណាស់ក៏មាន ៧ភាគរយនៃយុវវ័យជាប្រុសដែលមានផែនការរួមភេទ ទាំងនេះ នឹងអាចទាក់ទិននឹងការរួមភេទជាក្រុមដោយបង្ខំស្រ្តីភរិយារបស់ពួកគេ( ឬក) នៅថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារ ដែលនឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះដែរ។

បើទោះបីជា ជាងពាក់កណ្តាល(៥៩,៨%) នៃយុវវ័យដែលបានផ្តល់ការសំភាសន៍ទាំងអស់បានបញ្ជាក់ថា ពួកគេយល់ស្របថាវាជារឿងធម្មតានិងជាសិទ្ធិរបស់បុគ្គលម្នាក់ក្នុងការមានទំនាក់ទំនងផ្លូវភេទក្នុងភាពជាយុវវ័យ។ ហើយពួកគេហាក់ដូចជាទំនងជាយល់ដឹងពីបញ្ហាសុខភាពបន្តពូជដែរ តែជាផលវិបាកពួកគេប្រហែលជាអាច ប្រឈមមុខនឹងគ្រោះថ្នាក់ នឹងការមានទំនាក់ទំនងផ្លូវភេទដោយមិនមានការយល់ព្រម ការប៉ុនប៉ងសំលាប់ខ្លួន ជំងឺឆ្លងតាមផ្លូវភេទ និងជំងឺអេដស៍ ប្រសិនបើពួកគេរួមភេទនៅថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារនេះ។ ម្យ៉ាងវិញទៀតប្រហែលជិត ពីរភាគបី(៦៣,៨%) នៃយុវវ័យទាំងនេះបានឆ្លើយថាឪពុកម្តាយ ឬក៏សមាជិកក្នុងគ្រួសាររបស់ពួកគេទំនងជា មិននិយាយអំពីបញ្ហាផ្លូវភេទ ក្នុងកំឡុងរយៈពេល៣ខែចុងក្រោយនេះទេ។ ហើយជាងពាក់កណ្តាល(៥៣,៧%) នៃពួកគេបានគិតថាឪពុកម្តាយ ឬក៏សមាជិកក្នុងគ្រួសាររបស់ពួកគេ មិនដឹងនូវអ្វីដែលយុវវ័យនឹងធ្វើអ្វី នៅថ្ងៃបុណ្យ សង្សារដែលនឹងមកដល់នាពេលឆាប់ៗខាងមុខនេះទេ។

អ្វីដែលអាចធ្វើបាន គួរតែយកចិត្តទុកដាក់លើបញ្ហាដែលពាក់ព័ន្ធនឹង ការរួមភេទដោយមិនបង្ខំ សុខភាពផ្លូវភេទ និងសុខភាពបន្តពូជ និងជំងឺអេដស៍ ក្នុងចំណោមយុវវ័យនៅតំបន់ទីក្រុងនៃប្រទេសកម្ពុជា។ ហើយការធ្វើអន្តរាគមន៍គួរតែធ្វើទៅលើក្រុមគោលដៅ នៅមុន និងថ្ងៃបុណ្យសង្សារតាមរយៈលទ្ធផលដែលបាន មកពីការសិក្សានេះ។

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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
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

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This research has been undertaken by Tong Soprach, a Cambodian public health freelance consultant, who graduated from the University of Cambodia in 2008 with a Master Degree in Public Health. He has 10 years work experience, including 5 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.

- **Primary researcher (2003):** *Paupers and Princlings: Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft*. Phnom Penh: GAD/C.
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- **Coordination and Analysis (2006):** *Experiences and Changes in Sex, Relationships and RH Among Young Urban Men*, Phnom Penh: PS/CARE/KYA/EU/UNFPA.
- **Author (2008):** *The Impact of Premarital Sex Among Young People in Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: University of Cambodia.
- **Author (2009a):** *Young People Talking about Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008, Phnom Penh (A Qualitative Study)*: Independent Research Study.
- **Author (2009b):** PRELIMINARY: *Love and Sexual Relationships: Experiences and Plans of Middle Class Young People Regarding the Upcoming Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2009 (A Quantitative Study)*, Independent Researcher

The researcher designed this upcoming Valentine's Day study to continue on from the findings of his previous Valentine's Day qualitative study (Tong, 2009). The researcher talked to several academics who gave some comments and advice, including about the questionnaire design.

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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.<sup>1</sup> 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 1993/4 and the most recent survey in 2004.<sup>2</sup> Annual GDP growth averaged 8.4 percent per annum over 1994-2006.<sup>3</sup> The Inter-census 2004 reports people then in the largest cohort aged 10-19 (26.4 per cent)<sup>4</sup> and this is the group the researcher chose for this study; now they are 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 such as sexual relationships. In certain respects, some legal standards do draw a line between a child and an adult, but the legal age of marriage is 18 for women and 20 for men.<sup>5</sup> A recent national study indicated that men marry at a median age of 22.1 and start to be sexually active just before marriage, at a median age of 21.5; whereas women generally begin having sexual intercourse at about the same time as the average age to be married, at a median age of 20.4.<sup>6</sup>

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.<sup>7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>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.

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

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 1.

<sup>4</sup> NIS. (2004). *Cambodian Inter-censual Population Survey 2004, General Report,* Phnom Penh: MOP. p. 13

<sup>5</sup> ព្រឹត្តិបត្រប្រឹក្សារដ្ឋនៃរដ្ឋកម្ពុជា (ឆ្នាំ១៩៨៩) ច្បាប់ស្តីពីអាពាហ៍ពិពាហ៍ មាត្រាទី៥ ជំពូក២ ត្រូវបានដកចេញពីសៀវភៅកម្រង

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 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Legal Document Braid. (2001), United Nations Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Phnom Penh. p. 644.

<sup>6</sup> National Institute of Public Health and National Institute of Statistics. (2006). *Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2005.* Phnom Penh, Cambodia. p. 101.

<sup>7</sup> Retrieved February 12, 2008 from [http://www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint\\_valentine.htm](http://www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint_valentine.htm)

<sup>8</sup> Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.history.com/content/valentine/history-of-valentine-s-day>

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.<sup>9</sup> Generally young men in Cambodia have more of an opportunity to hang out in groups and to socialize than young women who stay at home. Young women have a chance to hang out during the Khmer New Year and other festivals.<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup>

## 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 0.9% in 2006.<sup>12</sup> 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 sweethearts 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.<sup>13</sup>

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.<sup>14</sup> Tarr's study strongly suggested that we ignore other contexts where young people, including young, unmarried females, are also involved in risk-related sexual behavior.<sup>15</sup> 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

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<sup>9</sup> "...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.

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

<sup>11</sup> Fordham, G. (2003). *Adolescent Reproductive Health in Cambodia: Status Policies, Programmes and Issues*. Phnom Penh: POLICY Project. p. 3. Retrived December 23, 2008 from [http://www.policyproject.com/pubs/countryreports/ARH\\_Cambodia.pdf](http://www.policyproject.com/pubs/countryreports/ARH_Cambodia.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> NCHADS. (2007, June 28). *Press release: Government announces official HIV prevalence rate*. Retrieved November 2, 2007 from <http://www.nchads.org/pressrelease/28-06-07%20en.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> NCHADS. (2003). *Behavioral Sentinel Survey (BSS) V:SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AMONG URBAN SENTINEL GROUPS, CAMBODIA 2001*. Phnom Penh: MOH. p. 45. Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.nchads.org/Publication/BSS/BSS2001.PDF>

<sup>14</sup> 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>

<sup>15</sup> Tarr, C.M. (1996b). *Op. cit.*, p. 2

for sexual relationships.<sup>16</sup> Unsafe abortion in Cambodia remains one of the most common causes of maternal death (20-29%)<sup>17</sup>, despite the legalization of abortion in 1997.<sup>18</sup>

A quantitative study, conducted by Assumption University in Bangkok, stated that one fifth of teenagers surveyed will have sex on Valentine's Day.<sup>19</sup> A panel discussion on sexuality among young people on 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.<sup>20</sup>

The previous Valentine's Day<sup>21</sup> 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 to survey quantitative among wealthier young people for more accurate.<sup>22</sup> This current study was therefore designed to seek to answer the research question:

*Do middle class young people in Phnom Penh plan to be sexually active on the upcoming Valentine's Day?*

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<sup>16</sup> Wilkinson, D.J. and Fletcher, G. (2002). *Sweetheart Relationship in Cambodia: Love, Sex & Condoms in the time of HIV*, Phnom Penh: PSI. p.1

<sup>17</sup> 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

<sup>18</sup> រដ្ឋសភាជាតិ (ឆ្នាំ ១៩៩៧) ច្បាប់ស្តីពីការរំលូត មាត្រាទី៨ ជំពូក២ ត្រូវបានដកស្រង់ចេញពី សៀវភៅកម្រង ឯកសារច្បាប់ បោះពុម្ពលើក ទី ៣ (ឆ្នាំ២០០១) នៃការិយាល័យឧត្តមស្នងការអង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិ ទទួលបន្ទុកសិទ្ធិមនុស្សប្រចាំកម្ពុជា ធ្វើនៅភ្នំពេញ។ ទំព័រទី ៨៩៨។

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

<sup>19</sup> Ann. (2008, Feb. 11). One fifth of teenagers will have sex on Saint Valentine's day in Bangkok. *Nation*, Retrieved February 12, 2008 from <http://www.asiaone.com/News/Education/Story/A1Story20080211-49118.html>

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

<sup>21</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Young People Talking About Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008 (A Qualitative Study)*. Phnom Penh: Independent Research Study.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 23-24.

### **1.3. The Objectives of the Study**

Key objectives of the present study were:

- To learn more about middle class 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;

### **1.4. Significance of the Study**

This quantitative survey was completed with a large sample (n=458) of wealthy 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 research was continued from a qualitative study where young people talked about Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008. After finalizing the qualitative report, 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 and methodology, and design questionnaires. It was difficult to produce his report before the upcoming Valentine's Day.

#### ***Financial Constraints***

This study was supported by the researcher's own budget derived from private consultancies. 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, the researcher decided to choose middle class 15-24 year-olds, differing from the population surveyed in the 2008 study in

Bangkok which chose to survey people between the ages of 13-19. The reasons for focusing on this age-group were firstly, there is only a small number of young people aged 13-14 who are out in the target area of this study. Secondly, WHO/UNICEF (1998) define youth as 15-24 years old.<sup>23</sup>

***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. 17 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. The questionnaires were then translated into Khmer.

In order to find out attitudes of young men towards “*bauk*”, one question was differently structured to make it more difficult to answer “I don’t know”. Previous experience showed it was difficult to talk about involvement in “*bauk*”. The question was therefore structured like this:

Q. 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.

This question was asked of young men, who were more likely to say “Don’t know”, even though it seems safe to assume they do know about the activity of *Bauk*. The researcher aimed to measure awareness of *Bauk* among young men; so, “Don’t know” did not appear as a possible response to this question. However the researcher instructed interviewers to pay close attention to this question, because if the interviewees really don’t know about “*Bauk*”, they would ask the meaning of the word. In this case, interviewers were instructed to tell them to write down “Don’t know” or leave it blank and during data entry a new code of variable value “Don’t know” would be created.

Also in the case of the following question in each questionnaire:

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

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<sup>23</sup>Ramage, I. (2004). *Cambodia Baseline Survey*. Phnom Penh: RHIYA Project, EU/UNFPA. p.5.

The phrase noted in parentheses was accidentally omitted. Also, almost all respondents ticked only one; so, the researcher decided to tick only one and if there was more than one answer they put it in “other”.

***Training:***

All research assistants were already trained in sexual and reproductive health education, and all had peer educator experience. Some have had experience working with the Playing Safe Project and others are currently associated with Population Health Development, which has given them strategies to more easily contact middle class 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 Sunday, January 25, 2009. Although some of data entry volunteers already had experience with data entry into SPSS 14.0 and Excel, the researcher gave them further training and coaching.

***The Research Assistants Shared Lessons Learnt After Collecting Data:***

All research assistants reported approaching several people who then refused to participate in the study (in total 72 people). The reasons given for declining to participate included: they were Vietnamese and could speak Khmer; a few could not read the questionnaire and 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; or didn't want to know or hear about sweethearts. Others said they had no time to complete the questionnaire, or were busy talking or eating; and some complained of a broken heart and not feeling comfortable to complete the questionnaire. Finally, on the first day 5 pens were not enough with a big group, also because the target population is highly mobile sometimes the interviewer came across the same persons again.

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, however the interviewers reported being confused, gave them the questionnaire anyway, then it was put in the envelope for confidentiality and this was found out later.

Some of the respondents, mostly females, complained that there were too many questions, and others felt the questions were difficult, and some asked what the interviewers planned to do

with the answers. However, most of the interviewees reported feeling happy to complete the questionnaire, saying that it is good to take part and think about these questions. At least a few of 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, 9 percent of the total data collected (41 out of a total of 499 observations) were discarded due to lack of respondent's signature indicating informed consent, uncompleted age or over age of target.

### ***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:*** 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 and [only] 25% lead to marriage. [*Male student*]<sup>24</sup>

***Songsar:*** This is the term used to address the man with whom we have mutual love. Generally speaking, when the term sangsar is used, marriage is sometimes possible. [*Female student*]<sup>25</sup>

***Songsar:*** used for sweetheart/*Mith Pros* for boyfriend/*Mith Srey* for girlfriend.<sup>26</sup>

**Middle Class Young People:** Refers to young people who have expensive clothes, as we observe their characteristics and gestures they look 'cool' as individual or group. Usually they drive a motorbike or car.<sup>27</sup>

**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."<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Wilkinson, D.J. and Fletcher, *Op cit.*, p. 9.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.* p. 10

<sup>26</sup> The researcher decides to use all these words are the same meaning for this study.

<sup>27</sup> Research assistants shared their experience based working with wealthier young people during research training on January 25, 2009.

<sup>28</sup> 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>

**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.<sup>29</sup>

***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.<sup>30</sup>

## 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.<sup>31</sup> 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.<sup>32</sup>

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

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<sup>29</sup> 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.

<sup>30</sup> 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 Princelings : 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.

<sup>31</sup> Soprach, T. (2008). *The Impact of Premarital Sex Among Young People in Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: University of Cambodia. p. 8.

<sup>32</sup> 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>

these said that they practiced safe sex sometimes while 21.1 per cent said they had never used condoms before.<sup>33</sup>

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.<sup>34</sup> Unsafe abortions were associated with increasing maternal mortality rates among women aged 15-49 years in Cambodia; 472 deaths per 100,000 live births.<sup>35</sup> Meanwhile, the WHO estimated the abortion mortality rate in Cambodia as 130/100,000 per live births. 45% of abortions took place at home.<sup>36</sup> This issue was personalized by the 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 “My wedding day ... the day my fiancée died.” demonstrates the danger of unsafe abortions.<sup>37</sup>

One 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 made love, there was a trace of blood and I was very sore afterwards. Not long after this he abandoned me.’<sup>38</sup>*

According to Cambodian socio-cultural factors, 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 for her PhD, Heidi Hoefinger (2010) found that some young women who had been involved in

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<sup>33</sup> Ann. (2008, Feb. 11). *Op cit*.

<sup>34</sup> Sedgh, G. et al (2007, October 13). Induced Abortion: Estimated Rates and Trends Worldwide. *Lancet*, Vol. 370, p. 1338

<sup>35</sup> CDHS 2005, *Op. cit.*, p. 120.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.* p. 76.

<sup>37</sup> 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

<sup>38</sup> 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.

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'.<sup>39</sup>

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.'<sup>40</sup> 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.'*<sup>41</sup>

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.'*<sup>42</sup>

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 the countryside as safe. So long as men's sex-

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<sup>39</sup> Hoefinger, H. (2010). *Negotiating Intimacy: Transactional Sex and Relationships Among Cambodia's Professional Girlfriends*. PhD, University of London, Goldsmiths College: United Kingdom. Correspondence: [h.hoefinger@gold.ac.uk](mailto:h.hoefinger@gold.ac.uk)

<sup>40</sup> Wilkinson, D. J and Fletcher, G, Op. cit., p. 30.

<sup>41</sup> 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.

<sup>42</sup> Bearup, L. S. (2003). *Paupers and Princes: Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft*. Phnom Penh: GAD/C. p. 91.

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.<sup>43</sup>

Previous quantitative studies related to 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 them 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%).<sup>44</sup>

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*).<sup>45</sup> 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,<sup>46</sup> 72.6% had heard of *bauk* incidents, and knew of *steav* 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 student knew others who have been involved in *bauk*.<sup>47</sup>

Conservative parents of young Cambodians who wish to preserve Khmer Culture 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*

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<sup>43</sup> 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.

<sup>44</sup> Ramage, I. (2004). *Cambodia Baseline Survey*. Phnom Penh: RHIYA Project, EU/UNFPA. pp. 70-78.

<sup>45</sup> Sunran, K. (2004). *Cambodia National: Youth Risk (11-18 years) Behaviour Survey*. Phnom Penh: MoEYS, UNICEF & UNESCO. pp. 5-7.

<sup>46</sup> Soprach, T. (2004). *GANG RAPE: The Perspective of Moto-Taxi Drivers across Cambodia*. Phnom Penh: Playing Safe Project, CARE Cambodia, EU/UNFPA. p. 19.

<sup>47</sup> Bearup, L. S., *Op. cit.*, p. 30.

*learn from one another. If one of my sons were to get an unmarried girl pregnant, I would disown him if he refused to get married or paid some form of monetary compensation to her family ... it is better to disown such a child.'*<sup>48</sup>

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.'*<sup>49</sup>

### **III. Methodology**

#### **3.1. Research Design**

A Cross-sectional design was chosen for this descriptive quantitative study, whatever is being studied is being observed at a single point in time, as if a section of time were being cut out for observation. 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.<sup>50</sup> 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 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 completion and very little assistance was made available except in the case that a respondent did not understand a

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<sup>48</sup> Tarr, C. M. (1996b), *Op. cit.*, p. 69.

<sup>49</sup> Vuthy, B. (2006). *RHIYA Cambodia Endline Qualitative Survey*. Phnom Penh: EU/UNFPA. p. 47

<sup>50</sup> Baker, L.T. (1994). *Doing Social Research*. California State University, San Marcos: McGraw-Hill, Inc. p. 106

question.<sup>51</sup> 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.

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

For this study, proportion formula is calculated for using statistics to determine sample size:<sup>52</sup>

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

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

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<sup>51</sup> 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

<sup>52</sup> *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. 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 diner together and went back home. I think that day is when all couples show their love with each other.*"<sup>53</sup>

Thus, cluster sampling is used primarily for administrative convenience.<sup>54</sup> Clusters are usually already formed as established groups, for example organizations (such as schools) or residential locations (such as blocks).<sup>55</sup> Probability sample is not used for this mobile population because they have the same characteristics and come from anywhere in the town both as individuals and groups; so, convenient interview technique is used.

Geographic cluster sampling was selected; five parks around the riverfront were selected: Vimean Ekareach park, Wat Bouttum park, New National Assembly Park, Hun Sen (NAGA) park, and the Park in the front of the Royal Palace. By observation the target population is estimated to be around 200 persons, including couples, at each park during the weekend evenings. These populations move every 15 to 20 minutes. Therefore, the total population of 615 was divided into five areas. Each park is equally 119 persons and then among 119 population are separated into four categories of population through questionnaires: 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 Sunday, January 25, 2009 about data collection. As all were trained sexual and reproductive health and ex-peer educators of PS, or

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<sup>53</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 15

<sup>54</sup> Fink, A. and Kosecoff, J. (1985). *Op cit.*, p. 57

<sup>55</sup> Baker, L.T. (1994). *Op cit.*, pp. 155-156

current peer educators of PHD, the researcher assumed that they had experience contacting wealthier young people as peers. 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 questionnaire was designed four categories: Young male in couple, young female in couple, young male not in a couple and young female not in a couple. And all questionnaire would be translated in Khmer Language.

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 must be in the target population age-group, (not lower than 15 or over 25 years old) and all completed questionnaires are to be stapled in envelopes.

Data collection occurred on Saturday January 31 and Sunday February 1, 2009 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm at the 5 parks near the riverfront, a couple of weeks before the upcoming Valentine's Day. The researcher acted as supervisor for all research assistants in field data collection. The interviewers were paired in each park in male/female partnerships for four 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.

In the field, each research assistant was given 140 questionnaires (20 extras- 70 for couple and 70 one for non-couple), 170 semi-A4 envelopes, 1 plastic board, 1 stapler, 5 pens and 2 plastic bags for storage of completed questionnaires in envelopes, ensuring 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 14.0 and Excel, and trained 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 499 respondents, around 9% (41 respondents) were removed. Thus, the final number of respondents was 458. A data analysis assistant created new variables to analyze for cleaning data and to verify each variable.

### **3.6. Data Analysis**

The data analysis assistant helped analyze in SPSS with Frequency and Cross-tab to develop tables and statistical presentations. The data was analyzed according to the research objectives.

### **3.7. Report Writing**

This report combines the descriptive quantitative analysis findings of the four parts of the respondents' background information, with future expectations, retrospective information and awareness related to relationships and sexual experience, and plans regarding the upcoming Valentine's Day. Additional secondary information from literature reviews was used to support the results. Where some information was not completed by interviewers, the uncompleted variable is assumed to be "missing" and the total number is therefore variant.

## **IV. Results**

These findings were released in a preliminary report to coincide with Valentine's Day 2009, in the hope of drawing attention to these issues at that time.

The total number of valid observations was 458; 240 males, and 218 females. Table 1 shows the total population broken down by sex: 24.5 percent were males in a couple, 27.9 percent were males not in a couple, 22.9 were females in a couple and 24.7 percent were females not in a couple. Table 2 shows that the simple population aged 15-24 years old revealed normal distribution with the variance of average age, which was 20.6 years, and mode which was 20 years. There is very little discrepancy around the middle range between 15-24 years old.

Table 1: Sex Category

No.	Sex Category	Number	Percent
1.	Male in a couple	112	24.5
2.	Male not in a couple	128	27.9
3.	Female in a couple	105	22.9
4.	Female not in a couple	113	24.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 2: Age of Respondents

No.	Age of Respondents	Age
1.	Average	20.6
2.	Mode	20.0
<b>Total number = 458</b>		<b>15-24</b>

**4.1. Routine Activities of Middle Class Young People**

Table 3 shows that more than two thirds (67.1%) of respondents replied that they always come here (one of the 5 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 nearby the target park, and the majority (84.6%) of respondents who responded that they do not always come here said they usually go elsewhere like to restaurants, shopping, or karaoke, among others (Table 4).

Table 3: Do you always come here with your sweetheart/friends to relax?

No.	Relax here	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	282	67.1
2.	No	138	32.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>420</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4: If no, where else do you and your sweetheart/friends go for relaxation?

No.	Elsewhere	Number	Percent
1.	Independence Monument Park	8	7.3
2.	Wat Botum Park	3	2.7
3.	New National Assembly Park	3	2.7
4.	Riverfront park (in the front of Royal Palace)	3	2.7
5.	Others (Restaurant, shopping and Karaoke...etc)	93	84.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>110</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.2. Plans for the Upcoming Valentine's Day

Table 5 stated that nearly one third (61.2%) of all respondents thought that the upcoming Valentine's Day will be a really special day for them and their sweethearts and their friends. Figure 1 shows that young people in a couple were much more likely than young people not in a couple to say they think the upcoming Valentine's Day will be a special day by nearly two times (81.0% and 44.0%, respectively).

Table 5: 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	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	271	61.2
2.	No	168	38.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>439</b>	<b>100</b>

Figure 1: Comparison of young middle class couples and young non-couples regarding whether they think the upcoming Valentine’s Day will be a special day.

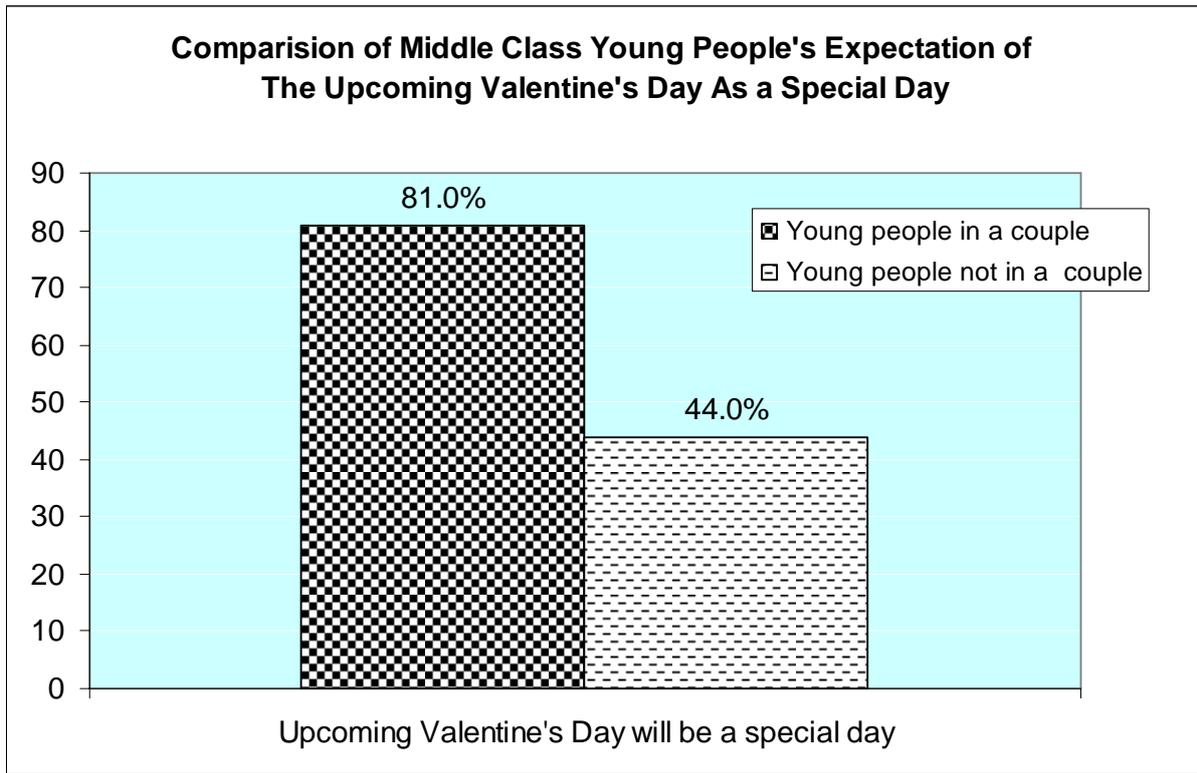


Table 6 shows that more than half (58.5%) of all respondents plan to give a gift to their sweetheart or someone this upcoming Valentine’s Day. And Table 7 pointed that approximately three fourths (76.6%) of those young people in a couple plan to give a gift to their sweetheart on the day. Table 8 shows the kinds of gifts that young people in a couple plan to give their sweethearts, fifty-six percent said they plan to give flowers, twenty-five percent plan to give clothes, twenty-three percent will give toys, fifteen percent plan to give jewelry and ten percent mentioned other items (chocolate and education materials).

Table 6: Will you give a gift to your sweetheart or someone this upcoming Valentine’s Day?

No.	Giving any gift	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	255	58.5
2.	No	181	41.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>436</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 7: Will you (Young people in a couple) give a gift to your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Gift for sweethearts	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	160	76.6
2.	No	49	23.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>209</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 8: Will you (Young people in a couple) give a gift to your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Kind of Gifts	Percent
1.	Flowers	56.3
2.	Clothes	25.0
3.	Toys	23.1
4.	Jewelry	15.0
5.	Others (Chocolate and Education materials)	10.6
<b>Total = 217</b>		

Almost all respondents (99.5%) plan to go out with their sweetheart or someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day, as seen in Table 9. Table 10 also indicates that almost all young people in a couple (99.5%) want to go with their sweetheart. They (young people in a couple) were asked where they will go to, twenty-six percent of them plan to go to a park, twenty-five percent Soriya/Sovanna mall, nineteen percent to a Club or entertainment centre, sixteen percent to Tea Kouch shop and at least 2.4 percent of them will go to a hut or guest house or hotel (Table 11). Table 12 shows that it is a special dating for nearly two-thirds (64.1%) of young people in a couple, who plan to have lunch or dinner with their sweetheart; one-third (32.3%) of them will go to a Karaoke Club or Club or entertainment centre.

Table 9: Will you want to go out with your sweetheart/someone on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Hanging out	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	427	99.5
2.	No	2	0.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>429</b>	<b>100</b>

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

No.	Hanging out	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	206	99.5
2.	No	1	0.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>207</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 11: Where do you (Young people in a couple) want to go with your sweetheart on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Where to go	Percent
1.	Parks	26.2
2.	Soriya/Sovanna market	25.7
3.	Club/entertainment centre	19.0
4.	Tea Kouch shop	16.5
5.	Soriya cinema	13.6
6.	Other (Kirirom, Sihanoukville)	12.3
7.	Karaoke	11.6
8.	Stay at home	9.3
9.	Bak Khaeng	8.7
10.	Kean Svay	6.8
11.	Hut/Guest house/hotel	2.4
<b>Total = 206</b>		

Table 12: Special Dating for Young people in a couple

No.	Sweetheart dating	Percent
1.	Lunch or dinner with sweetheart	64.1
2.	Karaoke Club or Club/entertainment	32.2
<b>Total = 206</b>		

In Table 13, results show that when the middle class young people (n=458) were asked if they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, 12.4 percent of all respondents replied that they think they will be able to have sex on that day. As table 14 shows, more than fourteen percent of young people in a couple (n=217) think they will able to have sex with their sweethearts on the upcoming Valentine's Day. Only 15.6 percent of these young people

with expectations of sex on Valentine’s Day (n=31) are not planning to use a condom (Table 15). Most respondents replied that they plan to use condoms.

Table 13: middle class young **people** who think they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day

<b>No.</b>	<b>Able to have sex</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1.	Yes	57	12.4
2.	No	401	87.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 14: middle class young **couples** who think they will be able to have sex with their sweethearts on the upcoming Valentine's Day

<b>No.</b>	<b>Able to have sex</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1.	Yes	31	14.3
2.	No	186	85.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>217</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 15: middle class young **couples** who think they will be able to have sex with their sweethearts and plan to use a condom on the upcoming Valentine's Day

<b>No.</b>	<b>Able to have sex</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1.	Yes	27	84.4
2.	No	4	15.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>100</b>

All young males in a couple (n=104) were then asked who they think they will be able to have sex with on the upcoming Valentine’s Day. Nearly a fourth (24.0%) of the respondents stated they think that they will be able to have sex with their girlfriend (Table 16, below).

Table 16: young males in a couple who think they will be able to have sex with their girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day.

No.	Able to have sex	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	25	24.0
2.	No	79	76.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>104</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.3. Young Males in a Couple and Non-consensual Sex

Young males in a couple who expect to have sex with their girlfriend (n=25) were asked what they plan to do if their girlfriend does not agree. As expected, only a third (33.4%) of the respondents stated that they will ignore sex and just hang around for fun if their girlfriend does not agree for sex. Two thirds (66.6%) of respondents replied they will use many means to pressure or force their girlfriend to have sex. Table 17 and Table 18 show the results.

Table 17: If yes (young male in couple will able to have sex), but if your girlfriend does not agree, what will you do?

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
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 18: Number of young males who plan to have sex even if their partner does not agree to do so, on Valentine's Day 2009

No.	Non consensual sex	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	16	66.6
2.	No	8	33.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 19 shows that young people in a couple who think they will be able to have sex with their sweetheart or others (sooner for sweethearts or sex workers) (n=38) were interviewed if it will be their first time for them. More than a third (39.5%) of this respondents surveyed stated that it will be the first time for them.

Table 19: 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	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	15	39.5
2.	No	23	60.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>38</b>	<b>100</b>

Out of all the middle class young people in the study, some (n=57) plan to have sex with their different partners on the upcoming Valentine's Day. They stated that more than a fourth (26.3%) of young people who plan to have sex with female sex workers were young males not in couple, and at least seven percent of young males planned to be involved in *Bauk* (gang rape against commercial sex worker). The following table shows the results.

Table 20: middle class young people who think they will be able to have sex with the different of partners on the upcoming Valentine’s Day

No.		Number	Percent
1.	Sex with his girlfriend	25	43.9
2.	Sex with her boyfriend	6	10.5
3.	No sex with current boy/girlfriend but with another sweetheart	3	5.3
4.	No sex with girlfriend, but with sex worker	2	3.5
5.	No sex with girlfriend, but <i>bauk</i>	1	1.8
6.	No girlfriend, but sex with female sex worker	15	26.3
7.	No girlfriend, but <i>bauk</i>	3	5.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>57</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 21 reported that more than twenty percent of middle class young males (n=240) plan to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, whereas young females not in a couple do not plan on having sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day. However, seven young females in a couple do plan to have sex with their sweethearts.

Table 21: middle class young males who think they will be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day

No.	Able to have sex	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	50	20.8
2.	No	190	79.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>240</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.4. Sexual Experience among Young Males in Last 3 Months

In order to see the trend of previous sexual behaviour, the male researcher asked male respondents (n=240) about their sexual activity in the past three months. The following table shows the results. More than ten percent of the respondents have had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months. And at least a few (16.0%) of them still did not use a condom, with Table 23.

Table 22: Have you (young male) had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

No.	Sex worker in the last 3 months	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	25	10.4
2.	No	215	89.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>240</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 23: If yes (sex with sex worker), did you (young male) use a condom?

No.	Sex worker in the last 3 months with condom	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	21	84.0
2.	No	4	16.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 24 shows that all young males (n=240) were asked if they have had *Bauk* with a sex worker in the last 3 months. More than ten percent of young males interviewed were involved in *Bauk* in the last 3 months. Some (11.5%) of them (n=26) did not use a condom; the following table states the results.

Table 24: Have you (young male) had *Bauk* with a sex worker in the last 3 months?

No.	<i>Bauk</i> in the last 3 months	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	26	10.8
2.	No	214	89.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>240</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 25: If yes *Bauk*, did you (young male) use a condom?

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

#### 4.5. Awareness and Perspectives on *Bauk*

Table 26 shows all middle class young people (n=458) were interviewed in order to understand their perspectives on *Bauk*. Only more than twenty-two percent of the respondents recognized that *Bauk* is gang rape and nearly half (46.5%) of the respondents don't know *Bauk*. The comparison of *Bauk* knowledge is broken down by sex. The following Figure 2 indicated knowledge of *Bauk* for young males and young females across the sample (n=458). Young males (29.2 percent) reported higher knowledge of *Bauk* (is gang rape), which was nearly two times than young females (15.6 percent). 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) over three times more than young females (14.2 percent).

Table 26: Statements about "*Bauk*" which respondents agreed with

No.	<i>Bauk</i>	Number	Percent
1.	<i>Bauk</i> is gang rape	104	22.7
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
3.	Don't know	213	46.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>

Figure 2: Comparison of *Bauk* awareness between young males and females

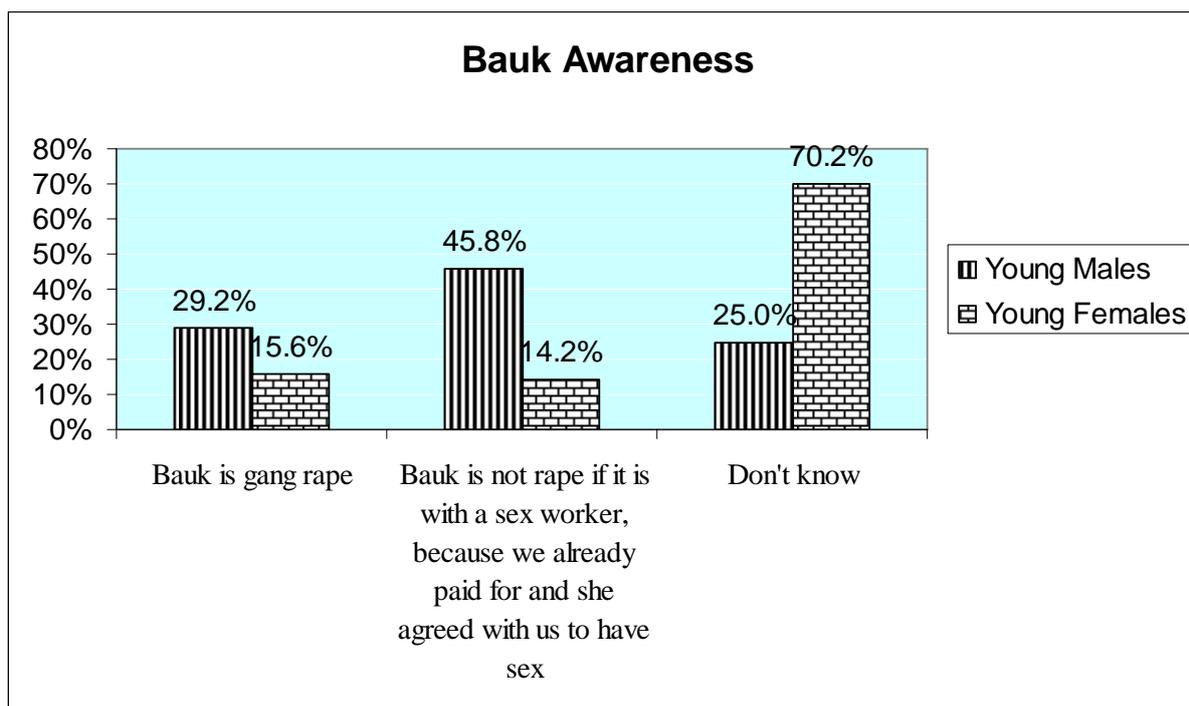


Table 27 shows whether or not young people feel it is normal and their personal right for them to engage in sexual relationships. More than half (59.8%) of them mentioned that they agreed that it is normal and their personal right to have sex as young people. Whereas, 40.2 percent mentioned that they disagreed with this concept.

Table 27: Sexual relationships between young people is normal and is their personal right

No.	Sex as a personal right	Number	Percent
1.	Agree	241	59.8
2.	Disagree	162	40.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>403</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.6. Parents Perspective on their Children on the Upcoming Valentine's Day

All middle class young people (n=406) were interviewed about whether their parents or anyone in their family talked with them about sexual issues in the past 3 months. The following table shows the results. Approximately two thirds (63.8%) answered that their parents or anyone in their family were more likely to not talk about sexual issues in the past 3 months. Table 29 reveals that all the interviewees (n=408) 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. More than half (53.7%) 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.

Table 28: Have your parents or anyone in your family talked with you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?

No.	Talked about sexual issues	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	147	36.2
2.	No	259	63.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>406</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 29: Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

No.	Parent know about V Day activities	Number	Percent
1.	Yes	189	46.3
2.	No	219	53.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>408</b>	<b>100</b>

**4.7. Young People Don't Know the History of Valentine's Day**

All middle class young people (n=425) were asked where Valentine's Day comes from. The table below shows the results for the whole sample. Approximately two third (61.6%) of them stated that they knew Valentine's Day comes from the West or Europe, but nearly a third (29.7%) of them stated that they didn't know or broad answer (World or no idea). Table 31 reveals where all the respondents (n=423) had heard about Valentine's Day. More than half (52.2%) of them indicated that they heard from media, business advertising, calendar and so on. While, more than a third (37.1%) of them knew through their friends, and 10.6 percent of them knew nothing about Valentine's Day.

Table 30: Where does Valentine's Day come from?

No.	Where V-day comes from	Number	Percent
1.	Western/Europe	262	61.6
2.	Hong Kong	24	5.6
3.	South Korea	9	2.1
4.	Thailand	4	.9
5.	Other (World and no idea)	62	14.6
6.	Don't know	64	15.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>425</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 31: How did you hear about Valentine's Day?

No.	Heard about Valentine's Day	Number	Percent
1.	Magazine/news	67	15.8
2.	Business advertising	76	18.0
3.	Movie	37	8.7
4.	Through my friends	157	37.1
5.	Other (TV, Study English, Calendar...etc)	41	9.7
6.	Don't know	45	10.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>423</b>	<b>100</b>

## V. Discussion

This quantitative study found that middle class young people do plan to engage in many of the activities highlighted in the results of the qualitative study 'Young People Talking About Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh in 2008', which was the guide to design this study. The routine behaviors that emerged from the qualitative study allowed the researcher to design the quantitative questionnaire, which found that two third of them like to go the parks where they were interviewed and other a third of them go to the parks nearby the target of this study and others such as restaurant, karaoke, tea Kuch and so on. And nearly a fourth of young people in a couple will go to parks, Soriya/Sovanna market, Karaoke/Club/entertainment centre and 15.5 percent of them will go outside of the town Bak Khaeng/Kean Svay, and at least 2.4 percent of them will stay Hut/Guest house/hotel.

There are several kinds of gifts that young people in a couple will give to their sweethearts. Fifty-six percent of respondents will give flowers, 25 percent will give clothes, 23 percent will give toys, 15 percent of jewelry and only 10 percent of others (chocolate and education materials) respectively. These results support qualitative finding among young couple in 2008, as young females spoke of their activities in the morning: *“For going out, we always go together. On the recent Valentine’s Day, my current boyfriend gave me a red rose and kissed me.”*

A young male attempted to have sex with his girlfriend by giving his girlfriend a gift and flowers and then went to Karaoke club he stressed: *“On Valentine’s Day, my current girlfriend and I went to the Soriya cinema at Soriya market, ate a pizza and I bought her a wallet. But she bought me a shirt. I bought her flowers in the morning. Because that day I really wanted to sleep with her, but her gestures showed me that she would not, although I touched her when we went to the Karaoke club because it was in the room. We were not worried about anyone hearing and seeing. I joined in the event because it is fun and romantic like foreigners.”* Giving flowers or gifts is more likely to start building a loving and sexual relationship among young couples on that day.<sup>56</sup>

### **5.1. Sex with and without Condon, Sex for First Time and Non-consensual Sex**

The results of this Valentine’s Day 2009 study show that young people use the event as an excuse to get involved in sex, especially those young people in a couple. More than twelve percent of the middle class young people (n=458) plan to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day; while, 14.3 percent of young people in a couple (n=217) plan to have sex with their sweethearts on the upcoming Valentine's Day. At least 15.6 percent of young people who plan to be involved in sex with their sweethearts (n=31) do not plan to use a condom on the upcoming Valentine's Day. More than a third (39.5%) of young people in a couple who plan to have sex with their sweetheart or others (sooner sweethearts or sex workers) (n=38) stated that it will be the first time for them. The researcher asked young males in a couple (n=25) who plan to have sex what they would do if their girlfriend does not agree. Two thirds (66.6%) of them will pressure or force their girlfriend into having sex with them through many methods. All middle class young people (n=57) who plan on having sex with the different types of partners on the upcoming Valentine's Day stated that more than a fourth (26.3%) of young people who will have sex with female sex worker were young male

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<sup>56</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 12

not in couple, and at least seven percent of young males will be involved in *Bauk* (gang rape against commercial sex worker), whereas young females not in a couple do not plan on having sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day. However, seven young females in a couple do plan to have sex with their sweethearts.

These quantitative results in 2009 supported the qualitative findings in 2008 related to sexual involvement among middle class young people; especially, young people in a couple on the upcoming Valentine's Day with different activities including sex with or without condom, first time for sex that day and non-consensual sex. As in a few cases of young people in a couple described their activities of sexual involvement with their sweetheart during the 2008 Valentine's Day to support the quantitative results in 2009:

This young male used his own words to persuade his girlfriend to have sex: *"After that I took her around the town to see other people and couples in the front of the Royal Palace... and then I tried to persuade her until 11pm. I took her to a guest house near Suon Reatrey beer garden on street 63. Seeing that, she asked me why did you come here? I said it was nearly mid-night and I did not have a key to open my house door... After that we watched the porn movie together; meanwhile, we made love with a condom; simultaneously, we heard the moan both on TV and outside TV..."*<sup>57</sup>

At the night time, many folks go back home but some stayed out. After hanging out those young couples were more likely to go to a guest house or a hotel to have sex. As a young male said laughing: *"After we hung around until 9pm, we went to a guest house. It was unbelievable when we searched for a guest house, after the third guest house, the owners said it was full. Finally we found one. It was the first time my girl friend said that there was no need to use a condom. I followed her request; I made love with her 2 times that night..."*<sup>58</sup>

Another young male also described the first time he had sex with his girlfriend: *"On this Valentine's Day, it is important for me and I called many friends to eat at a restaurant and we also gave flowers and chocolates to each other. After eating we scattered, but my girlfriend and I went to Spark Entertainment Center to dance and then we went to a hotel. I just spent USD\$ 10 for the hotel and it was the first time I made love to my girlfriend, but we*

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<sup>57</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 17-18

<sup>58</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 16

*decided to use a condom to prevent diseases such as STDs, AIDS and pregnancy. What made me happy was that it was my girlfriend's first time too."*

## **5.2. Non-consensual Sex with Sweetheart**

*This young male the time with his girlfriend over the whole night: "...Next we went to the riverfront of the Royal Palace to see other young couples. Until 11pm, I told her that I was a little bit tired and wanted to leave. Suddenly, I could not go back home at this time because it was mid-night. I didn't know where we should go to sleep? After that I said for her to follow me and then we went to a guest house near Psa Thmey. First, we slept back to back.... I asked her for sex by saying that I want to have sex with you. When she heard these words she refused and said I was crazy. I tried to coax her for nearly an hour; by touching her body and asked why she doesn't agree with me? ...After that...,I went down to buy a few condoms and we made love 2 times..."<sup>59</sup>*

## **5.3. Non-consensual Sex with *Bauk***

*A young man explained about his single male friends who get involved in *Bauk* during big events such as Best of the Best Concert, Water Festivals, Christmas, Valentine's Day: "...As for my friends, I know that my friends used to be involved in *Bauk* frequently by saying that they have spent a small amount of money but had a lot of sex. I remember one time last year, the day of the Best of the Best concert at Olympic stadium, but I did not join the event because I brought my current girlfriend to another place and they didn't have girlfriends. They got drunk and got involved in *Bauk* and I don't know about their condom use..."<sup>60</sup>*

A key result of this study is that 12.4 percent of middle class young people aged 15-24 years-old plan to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh and one fifth of teenagers aged 13-19 years-old will have sex on Saint Valentine's day in Bangkok in 2008.<sup>61</sup> The results of the study in Bangkok revealed young teenagers there are more likely to have high levels of sexual involvement than young people in Phnom Penh. This is perhaps due to economic growth and modernization from the West and Europe in Bangkok, which occurs at higher and faster rates than in Phnom Penh. Many daily lifestyle materials in Cambodia including clothes, motorbikes, cars, advertisement designs, movies, music, etc, are imported from Thailand. Therefore, during the Valentine's Day event, young people in Bangkok

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<sup>59</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 17

<sup>60</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. xvi

<sup>61</sup> Ann. (2008, Feb. 11). *Op cit.*

absorbed Western and European sexualized consumer culture quicker, which has had an influence on young people's sexual behavior in Phnom Penh. Although Valentine's Day was originally a Christian holiday, the two countries, Thailand and Cambodia, have been most influenced by the commercialism associated with it, and use it as a reason to engage in sex.

#### **5.4. Parents Perspective on their Children on the Valentine's Day**

Approximately two thirds (63.8%) answered that their parents or anyone in your family were more likely to not talk about sexual issues in the past 3 months. More than half (53.7%) of them thought that their parents or family members did not know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day. This quantitative finding supports the qualitative data.

The 2008 qualitative study found that almost all of the respondents said that Valentine's day is for young people. Most parents know little about that day or don't like what the youth get up on that day: *"I think that Valentine's Day... they don't know and care about that day, because they don't think that the day is essential. It is only for young people who are interested in Valentine's Day- for boy or girl friend."*<sup>62</sup>

#### **5.5. Young People Don't Know the History of Valentine's Day**

Approximately two third (61.6%) of them stated that they knew the Valentine's Day come from the West or Europe, but nearly a third (29.7%) of them stated that they didn't know or broad answer (World or no idea). And more than half (52.2%) of all respondents indicated that they heard from media, business advertising, calendar and so on. While, more than a third (37.1%) of them knew through their friends, and 10.6 percent of them knew nothing about Valentine's Day.

Many young people follow Valentine's Day and have learnt about it through foreign cultures, video, media, news, internet and sexualized clothing. As young males and females recognized: *"According to my awareness of Valentine's Day, it is a special day for us to express our love like other young people. I saw everyone celebrating yearly since 2000, because I watched Thai movies and Hong Kong movies that were in Cambodia. This activity made the flower sellers able to sell a lot of flowers at a high price; an example is that a rose costs USD\$3."* and young female indicated: *"I think young people learnt through foreign cultures such as videos, clothes, magazines and newspapers and so on."*, and another young

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<sup>62</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 20

male said: “For me, I am not sure about Valentine’s Day, I just know that young people give a bunch of flowers to their girlfriends and I follow them.”<sup>63</sup>

### 5.6. Novel and Media Depictions of Valentine’s Day in 2009

In 2009, there were a few publications related to the Valentine’s Day event which described the activities of middle class young people in Cambodia related to such as a novel and media intervention to confirm this finding:



Figure 3: The novel on “Regret” Souvenir on St. Valentine’s Day in 2009<sup>64</sup>

Figure 3 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 girl friends 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

<sup>63</sup> Soprach, T. (2009). *Op cit.*, p. 12

<sup>64</sup> Kho, T. (2009). *REGRET: Souvenir on St. Valentine’s Day*, Roman. Amara publisher. Phnom Penh. Cambodia

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.”<sup>65</sup>



Figure 4a: Guest-house room prices were raised to welcome the Valentine’s Day in 2009, Battambang province.<sup>66</sup>

Figure 4a informed that the Valentine’s Day event did not happen only in Phnom Penh by young people, but also in Battambang province. At the day, the article described: “groups of young people gave a rose or any gifts to their sweethearts or friends on the streets and they reached to go to guest-houses mostly young people and students aged from 15 to 20. According to the guest-house and hotel were increased the 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 did like that activity. Whereas guest-house managers, they also said that on the February 14, there were many guests since the morning for Krab Teuk Khmom a sexual scene and the guest-house managers also informed that there are 2 years the price increase when the Valentine’s Day arrival.”<sup>67</sup>

<sup>65</sup> Kho, T. (2009). *Op cit.*

<sup>66</sup> 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.

<sup>67</sup> Bopea. (2009, Feb. 16). *Op cit.* pp. 1-5

# VALENTINE'S DAY AFFECTS KHMER CULTURE

BY BUTH REAKSMEY KONGKEA

The Culture and Fine Arts Ministry's Secretary of State Som Sokun has appealed to Cambodian youth to respect their own customs and traditions and not adopt the Valentine's Day Traditions. He said the Festival is diluting Cambodian culture and traditions.

"Valentine's Day is not a Cambodian festival, it is a Roman Festival in which women proclaim their love and men buy overpriced gifts and single people getting depressed," he said during an interview with The Cambodia Weekly February 11.

The Secretary of State said that there are so many young people making love and sacrificing their purity during Valentine's Day in Cambodia. He said these activities will have a negative effect in Cambodia.

"I think that the Valentine's festival is good for people in developed countries but it is not so good for our people who must preserve their culture and traditions," he said. "We should not allow sex before marriage," he added.

He pointed out that recent years, many Cambodians saw the festival as an excuse to lose their virginity. He added that this attitude was very risky



A busy Valentine's Day for this florist

Figure 5: Valentine's Day affects Khmer Culture<sup>68</sup>

Figure 5 indicates that 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."<sup>69</sup> Even though there was not a study on the specific impact of the Valentine's Day, these few articles and the novel "Regret" all demonstrate the perceived affects of premarital love affairs on Valentine's Day. These publications support this study on sex among young people on the Valentine's Day, which reveals that more than half (59.8%) of all interviewees believe that it is normal and their personal right for sexual relationships between young people.

<sup>68</sup> Kongkea, B. (2009, Feb. 15-21). Valentine's Days Affects Khmer Culture. *Cambodia Weekly*. p. 12.

<sup>69</sup> Kongkea, B. (2009, Feb. 15-21). *Ibid*.

## VI. Conclusion and Recommendations

These Valentine's Day quantitative study findings give more quantified information to the 2008 qualitative study, which recognized that middle class young people (n=458) do not understand the background of Valentine's Day. Approximately two third (61.6%) of them have known only the festival coming from Western or European culture, but nearly a third (29.7%) of them stated that they didn't know or gave a broad answer (World or no idea). More than half (52.2%) of them indicated that they heard from media, business advertising, calendar and so on. While, more than a third (37.1%) of them knew through their friends, and 10.6 percent of them knew nothing about Valentine's Day. Due to the misunderstanding of the Valentine's Day history, middle class young people use this festival to involve themselves in sex. This current study was therefore designed to seek to answer the research question:

*Do middle class young people in Phnom Penh plan to be sexually active on the upcoming Valentine's Day?*

In the results, 12.4 percent of all respondents answered that they expect to be able to have sex on the upcoming Valentine's Day, and more than 14.3 percent of young people in a couple answered that they expect to be able to have sex with their sweethearts on that day too, and a few couples plan not to use a condom. Meanwhile, More than a third (39.5%) of the young people in a couple surveyed (n=38) stated that it will be the first time for them to have sexual intercourse. And the other two thirds (66.6%) of young males in couple (n=25) will pressure or force their girlfriend for having sex using many devices, if they do not agree. And at least seven percent of young males who answered that they expect to be able to have sex are open to being involved in *Bauk* on the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Even though more than half (59.8%) of all interviewees mentioned that they agreed that it is normal and their personal right to have sexual relationships between young people and are therefore more likely to be aware of sexual reproductive health, they are consequently probably at high risk of non-consensual sex, committing suicide, contracting sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and AIDS if they will be able to have sex on the Valentine's Day festival. On the other hand, approximately two thirds (63.8%) answered that their parents or anyone in their family were more likely to not talk about sexual issues in the past 3 months. More than half (53.7%) of them thought that their parents or anyone in their family don't know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day.

**- Further directions for research:**

- Need to undertake more study on the influences of Western culture on Khmer culture.

**- Programmer:**

- 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 where they will go and provincial cities in Cambodia.

**- Media:**

- Disseminate the information from the findings of this study before and on that day.

**- Local Authorities and Police:**

- Strengthen security on that day through the target area of the finding.
- Provide 24 hours security on the 2 bridges: Chroy Chang Var (Japanese bridge) and Monivongs around the Valentine's Day.

**- Parents and Teachers:**

- Provide advice on Sexual Reproductive Health and HIV and AIDS to their children and students. At least, speak out: "Don't bring AIDS home!", "Be careful of getting pregnant!", "Don't trust your partner!" and "Keep conservative on Khmer culture!" before and on Valentine's Day.
- Try to build open communication with your children every day about SRH.
- Be aware what your children and students are doing on Valentine's Day.

**- Young people:**

- Have to be aware of SRH and HIV, condom use if you are choosing to be sexually active.
- Behave in a way that protects your life.
- Be aware you have a choice to have sex or not.
- Don't commit suicide due to Valentine's Day!

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## Appendices

### Appendix 1: Timeframe and Activity Plan

Activities	Jan. 2009			Feb. 2009											
	25	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Literature review and protocol was continue from qualitative research on Valentine's Day 2008															
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 Excel, and Data entry															
Data cleaning and recode new variable relations															
Data Analysis and Report writing															
Presentation at the University of Cambodia															
Preliminary the Report Finding															
Final Report and Publish	February 10, 2010														

**Appendix 2: INFORM CONSENT AND QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**Activity, Love and Sexual Relationships and Experiences**  
**of Young People Regarding Valentine's Day in Phnom Penh,**  
**Saturday January 31 and Sunday February 1, 2009**  
**Independent Research Study**

Code Number of Respondent:

*(Office use only)*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Park name: .....	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <i>(Office use only)</i>
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	1 <sup>st</sup> attempt	RESULT
Date	/ / 09	
Finished up to question number(s) in case termination	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
Interviewer ID Code	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

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

**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, 2009.

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 in a 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. 6*)

(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)

Flowers     Clothes       Jewelry       Toys

Others (Specify.....)

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

(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)

Soriya/Sovanna market     Soriya cinema       Bak Khaeng       Kean Svay

Tea Kouch shop       Karaoke       Club/entertainment     Parks

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

7. Will you have lunch or dinner with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes       No

8. Will you go to any Karaoke club or club/entertainment with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?     Yes       No

9. Will you be able to have sex with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes       No (*If no, skip to No. 13*)

10. If yes, will you use a condom with your girlfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?

Yes       No

11. Continuing question No. 9. 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. 9. If yes, but if your girlfriend does not agree, what will you do?

(*Please tick only 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. 9. If no, have you had sex with your girlfriend before?

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

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

- Yes
- No

15. Continuing question No. 12. If no, what will you do to try to be able to have sex?

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

16. If yes, who will you be able to have sex on this upcoming Valentine's Day?

(*Please tick only one*)

- Other girlfriend (*If yes or no, skip to No. 17*)
- Sex worker (*If yes or no, skip to No. 18*)
- Bauk* (*bauk Srey or York Srey Teuv, Take to a female sex worker to, bauk with your friends*) (*If yes or no, skip to No. 19*)
- Other (Specify.....)

17. If you will have sex with other girlfriend, will you use a condom?

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

18. If you will have sex with a sex worker, will you use a condom?

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

19. If you plan to *Bauk* with sex worker, will you use a condom?  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?       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.

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

Business advertising

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

Through my friends

Other (Specify.....)

Don't know

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

## Questionnaire: Self-Adminstrated for young male not in a couple

1. How old are you? .....
  2. Do you always come here with your friends to relax?     Yes             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*)
- (Please tick answers which can be more than one)*
- Flowers     Clothes             Jewelry             Toys
  - Others (Specify.....)
6. Where you want to go with your friends on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  
*(Please tick answers which can be more than one)*
- Soriya/Sovanna market     Soriya cinema     Bak Khaeng             Kean Svay
  - Tea Kouch shop             Karaoke             Club/entertainment     Parks
  - Hut/Guest house/hotel     Stay at home     Other (Specify.....)
7. Will you are able to have sex upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes             No (*If no, skip to No. 12*)
  8. If yes, with whom you will have sex this upcoming Valentine's Day? (*Please tick only one*)  
 With a sex worker  
 *Bauk* (*bauk* Srey or York Srey Teuv *bauk*, Take to a sex worker to *bauk* with your friends)  
*(If no, skip to No. 10)*
  9. If with a sex worker, will you use a condom during sex this upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes             No (*If yes or no, skip to No. 11*)
  10. If *Bauk*, will you use a condom during sex this upcoming Valentine's Day?
  11. Continuing question No. 7. If yes, will it be your first time for you on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  Yes             No
  12. Have you had sex with a sex worker in the last 3 months?  
 Yes             No (*If no, skip to No. 14*)
  13. If yes, did you use a condom?     Yes             No

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

Yes       No       Don't know

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

16. 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.

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

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

Agree       Disagree

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

Yes       No

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

Yes       No

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

Western/Europe       Hong Kong       South Korea       Thailand

Other (Specify.....)       Don't know

21. 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

Other (Specify.....)

Don't know

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

## Questionnaire: Self-Administrated for young female in a 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...*)  
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)  
 Flowers     Clothes       Jewelry       Toys  
 Others (Specify.....)
6. Where you want to go with your boyfriend on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  
(*Please tick answers which can be more than one*)  
 Soriya/Sovanna market     Soriya cinema       Bak Khaeng       Kean Svay  
 Tea Kouch shop       Karaoke       Club/entertainment       Parks  
 Hut/Guest house/hotel     Stay at home       Other (Specify.....)
7. Will you have lunch or dinner with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes       No
8. Will you go to any Karaoke club or club/entertainment centre with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?     Yes       No
9. Will you are able to have sex with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes       No (*If no, skip to No. 14*)
10. If yes, will you use a condom with your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes       No
11. Continuing question No. 9. If yes, will it be your first time for you and your boyfriend upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes       No
12. Continuing question No. 9. If no, have you had sex with your boyfriend before?  
 Yes       No (*If no, skip to No.14*)

13. If yes, did you use condom at the last sex with your boyfriend?  Yes  No
14. Continue question No. 9. If no, will you look for another person to have sex with?  
 Yes  No (*If no, skip to No. 18*)
15. If yes, who will you are able to have sex upcoming Valentine's Day?  
*(Please tick only one)*  
 Other boyfriend  
 Other (Specify.....)
16. If with another boyfriend, will you use a condom?  
 Yes  No (*If no, skip to No. 18*)
17. If you will have sex with Other....., will you use condom?  
 Yes  No
18. 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.
19. Please tick which statement you agree with: *(Please tick only one)*  
 - Sexual relationships between young people is normal and their personal right  
 Agree  Disagree
20. Have your parents or anyone in you family talked you about sexual issues in the past 3 months?  
 Yes  No
21. Do you think your parents or family know what young people will be doing on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes  No
22. Where does Valentine's Day come from? *(Please tick only one)*  
 Western/Europe  Hong Kong  South Korea  Thailand  
 Other (Specify.....)  Don't know

23. 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
- Other (Specify.....)
- Don’t know

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY

## Questionnaire: Self-administrated for young female not in a couple

1. How old are you? .....
  2. Do you always come here with your friends to relax?     Yes             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. 6*)
- (Please tick answers which can be more than one)*
- Flowers     Clothes             Jewelry             Toys
  - Others (Specify.....)
6. Where you want to go with your friends on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  
*(Please tick answers which can be more than one)*
- Soriya/Sovanna market     Soriya cinema     Bak Khaeng             Kean Svay
  - Tea Kouch shop             Karaoke             Club/entertainment     Parks
  - Hut/Guest house/hotel     Stay at home     Other (Specify.....)
7. Will you are able to have sex upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes             No (*If no, skip to No. 10*)
  8. If yes, will you use a condom during having sex upcoming Valentine's Day?  
 Yes             No
  9. Continuing question No. 7. If yes, will it be your first time for you on the upcoming Valentine's Day?  Yes             No
  10. Continuing question No. 7. If no, have you had sex in the last 3 months?  
 Yes             No (*If no, skip to No. 12*)
  11. If yes, did you condom?     Yes             No
  12. 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.

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

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

- Agree                       Disagree

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

- Yes                       No

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

- Yes                       No

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

- Western/Europe               Hong Kong               South Korea               Thailand

Other (Specify.....)

Don't know

17. 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

Other (Specify.....)

Don't know

THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY