

# Childhood Sexual Abuse and Association with HIV Risk in Female Adolescents and Youth in Greater Buenos Aires, Argentina:

## Understanding Knowledge, Attitudes, Behaviors, and Self-Efficacy

Emily Marie Herzberg (presenter)

Virginia Zalazar


Mariana Vazquez

Fundacion Huesped

Fulbright Commission Argentina

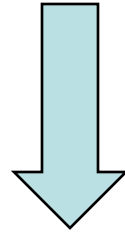


# Issues to Address

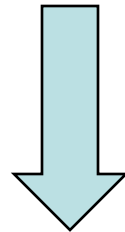
- Background on Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA)
  - HIV epidemic in Argentina
  - Study Objectives and Methodology
  - Preliminary results and conclusions
- 

# Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA)

- 7%-36% of girls, 3%-69% of boys - WHO
- 2%-62% - prevalence other studies

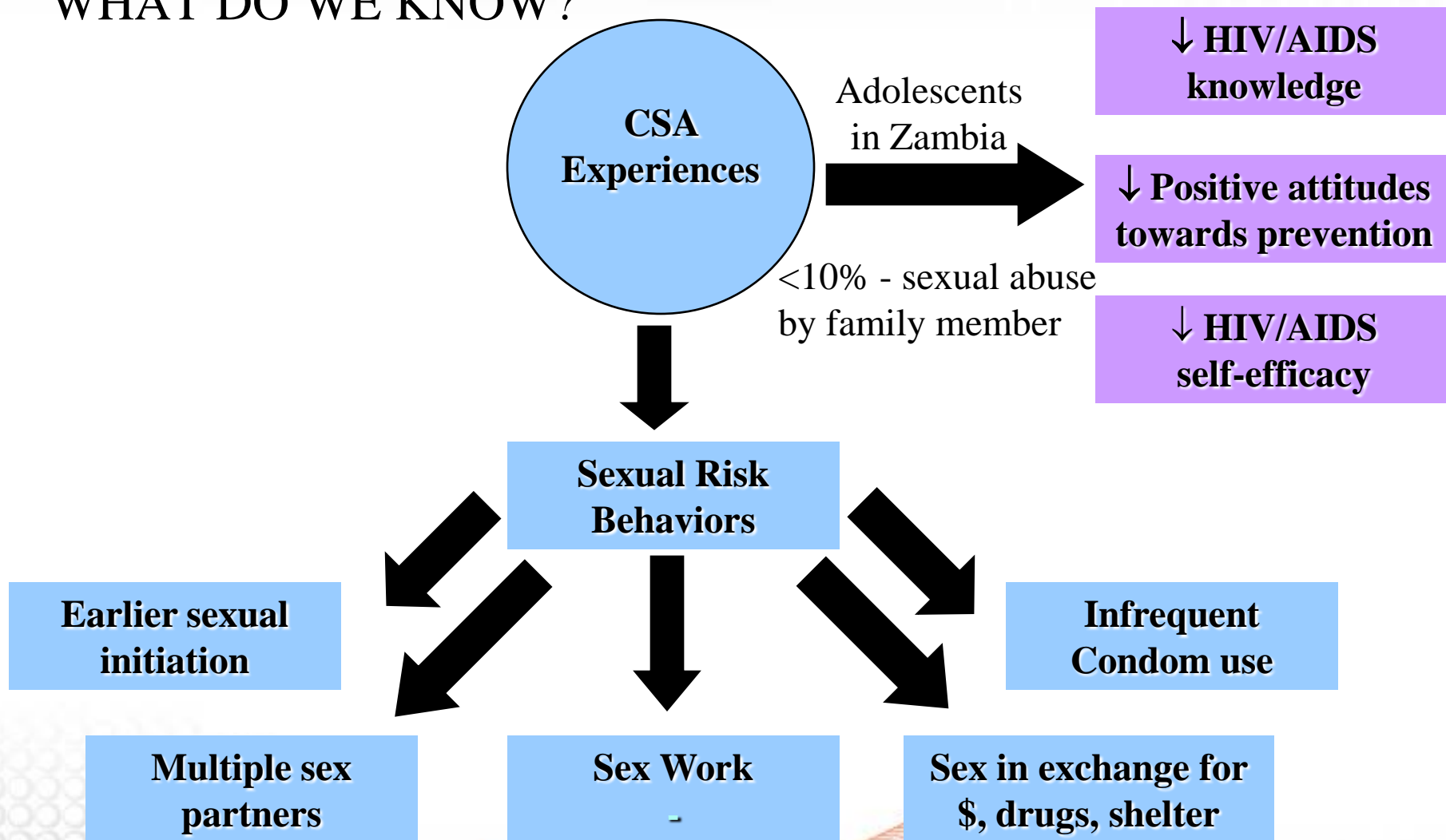


Large prevalence ranges



**WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO STUDY CSA?**

# Consequences of CSA: WHAT DO WE KNOW?



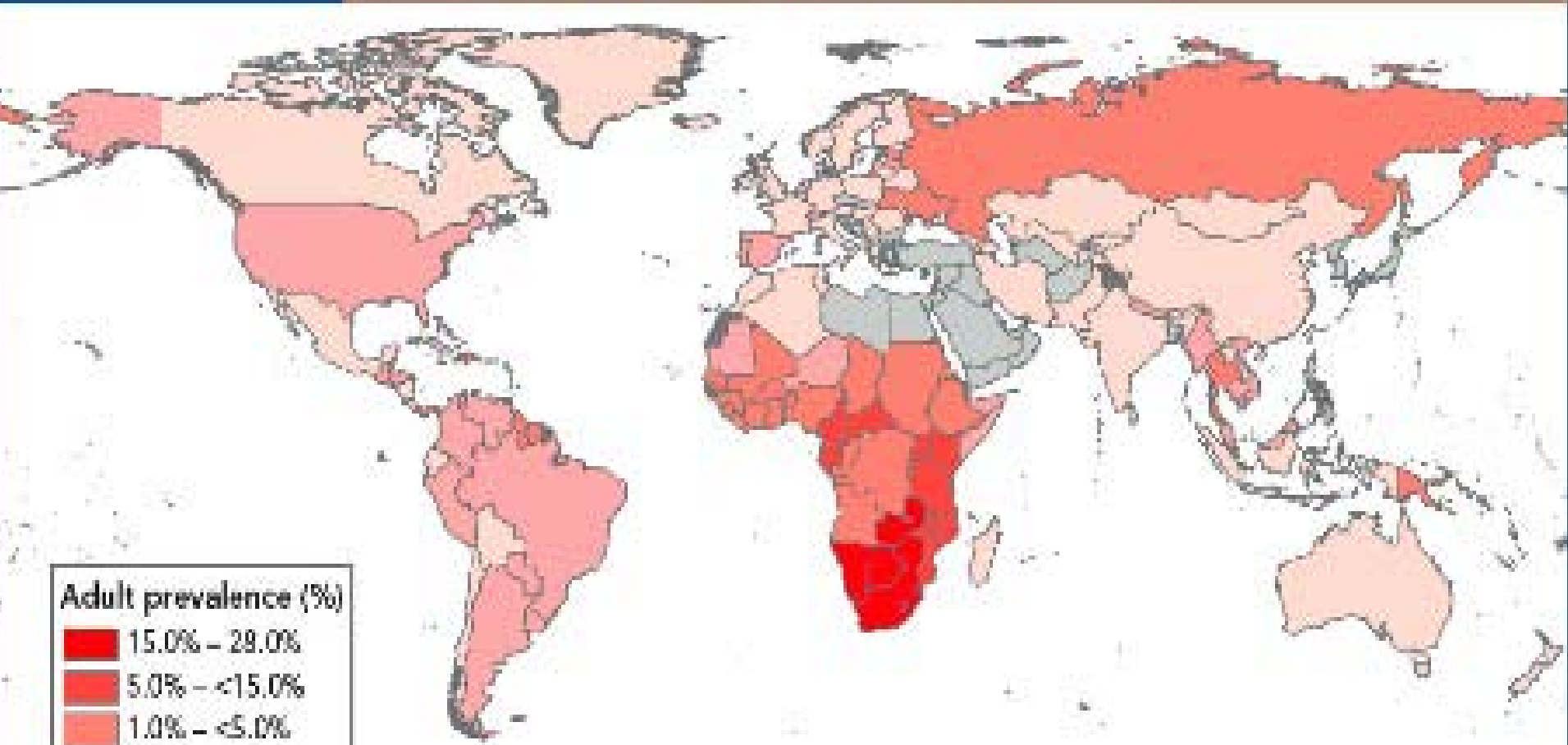
# CSA - Latin America & Argentina

- Studies from 1990s: 17-32% of women
- Recent studies (2008): 4.6-7.8% of women
- No national statistics in Argentina
- Argentine women are susceptible to HIV and CSA



# FIGURE 2.2

A global view of HIV infection, 2007  
33 million people [30 – 36 million] living with HIV, 2007



Adult prevalence (%)	
Dark Red	15.0% – 29.0%
Red	5.0% – <15.0%
Light Red	1.0% – <5.0%
Pink	0.5% – <1.0%
Light Pink	0.1% – <0.5%
Grey	<0.1%
Dark Grey	No data available

**1.5-2.1 million people living with HIV in Latin America**

**30 - 36 million people living with HIV worldwide (2007)**

# Young Women and HIV/AIDS in Argentina

- 130,000 people living with HIV
- Feminization of the epidemic
  - 1987: 92 men: 1 woman
  - 2006: 1.5 men: 1 woman
- Young women are more vulnerable to HIV



Feminization of epidemic



Assess factors that may increase risk behaviors and HIV vulnerability among women

# Study of CSA and HIV risk among young women in Greater Buenos Aires



- ✓ **Objective:** Analyze CSA and HIV risk among female adolescents and youth residents of Greater Buenos Aires, Argentina
- ✓ **Methodology:** Exploratory, descriptive study
- ✓ **Sample:** **88 female adolescents and young women** (15-24 years), residents of low-income zones of Greater Buenos Aires
- ✓ **Questionnaire:** Administered using **ACASI** (Audio Computer-Assisted Self Interview) to increase reporting of sensitive issues



**Effective in Argentina**

# Results: Sample Characteristics

N = 88 female adolescents and youth (15-24 yrs)

## Age

- 15-19 years: 62.5%
- 20-24 years: 37.5%

## Nationality

- Argentine: 86.4%
- Paraguayan: 8.0%
- Bolivian: 5.7%

## Educational Level

- “Secondary” complete or more: 27%
- 15-19 year-olds “Secondary” incomplete: 58.2%
- 20-24 years-olds “Secondary” complete: 39.4%

## Knowledge of HIV Transmission

- Vaginal Sex: 92.0%
- Anal Sex: 70.5%
- Oral Sex: 53.4%
- Sharing Needles: 90.9%
- Transfusions: 87.5%
- VT (preg.): 84.1%
- VT (birth): 71.6%
- VT (breastfeeding): 59.1%
- Tattoo needles: 86.4%
- Drinking mate: 87.5% (not a mode)
- Kissing: 85.2% (not a mode)

## Discrimination

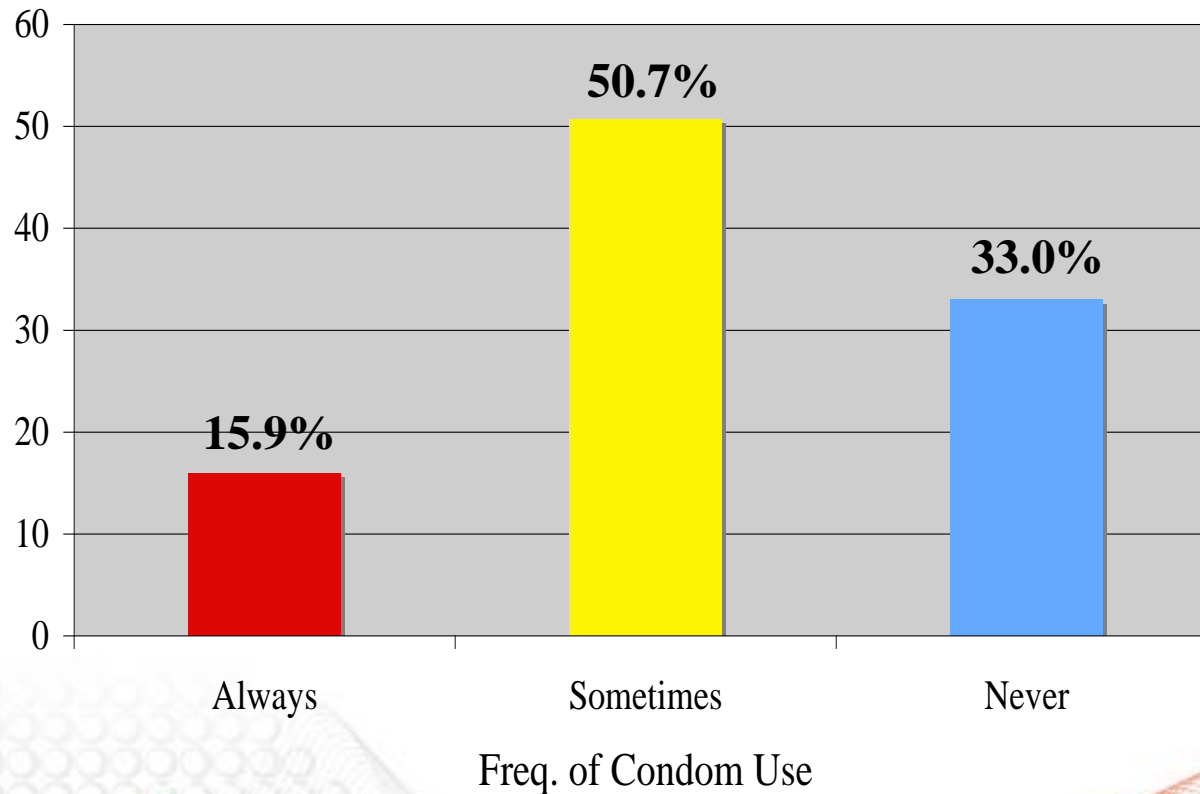
- High: 40.9%
- Medium: 30.7%
- Low: 28.4%

## HIV Testing

- Tested at least once: 46.6%

# Sample Characteristics: Sexual Risk Behaviors

Frequency of Condom Use, past year



- **Sexual Initiation between 14-16 years: 61%**
- **Condom Use during Sexual initiation: 58.7%**
- **Condom Use during last sexual intercourse, stable partner: 26.2%**

# Sample Characteristics: CSA

## Age

- 15-19 years: 76.9%
- 20-24 years: 23.1%

## Nationality

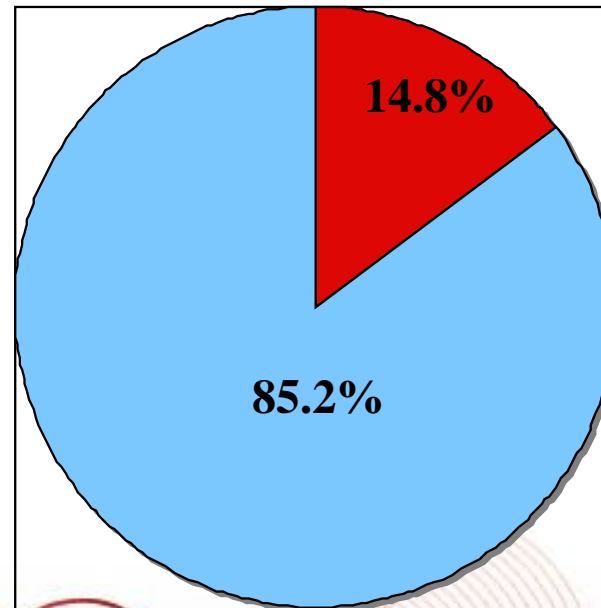
- Argentine: 86.4%
- Bolivian: 15.4%
- Paraguayan: 0%

## Educational Level

- “Secondary” complete or more: 23.1%
- 15-19 year-olds “Secondary” incomplete: 70%
- 20-24 years-olds <“Secondary” complete: 100%

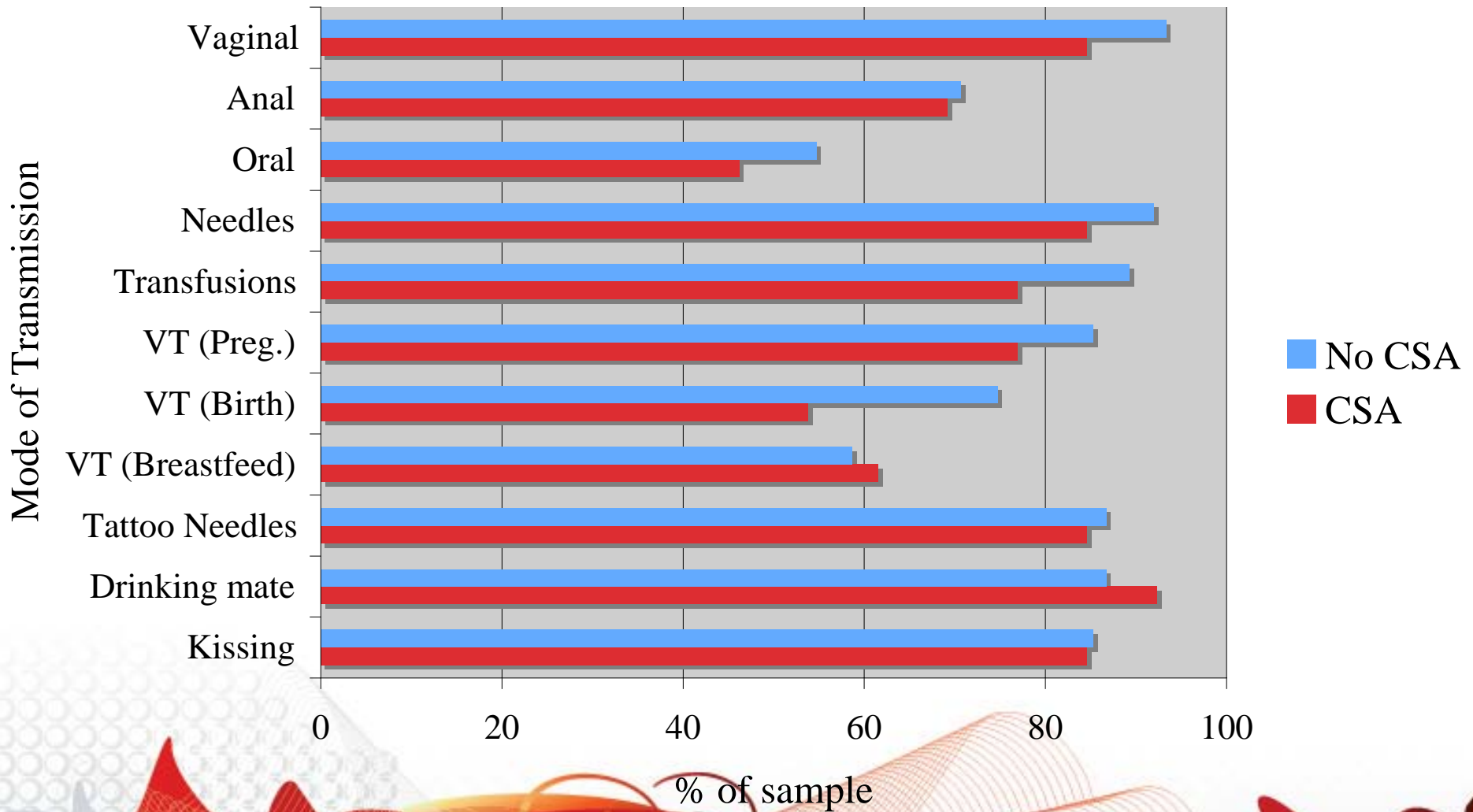
## Results: CSA

- 13 cases, 14.8% of sample
- 69.2% - abuse occurred more than once
- 5 cases - abuse was sexual initiation

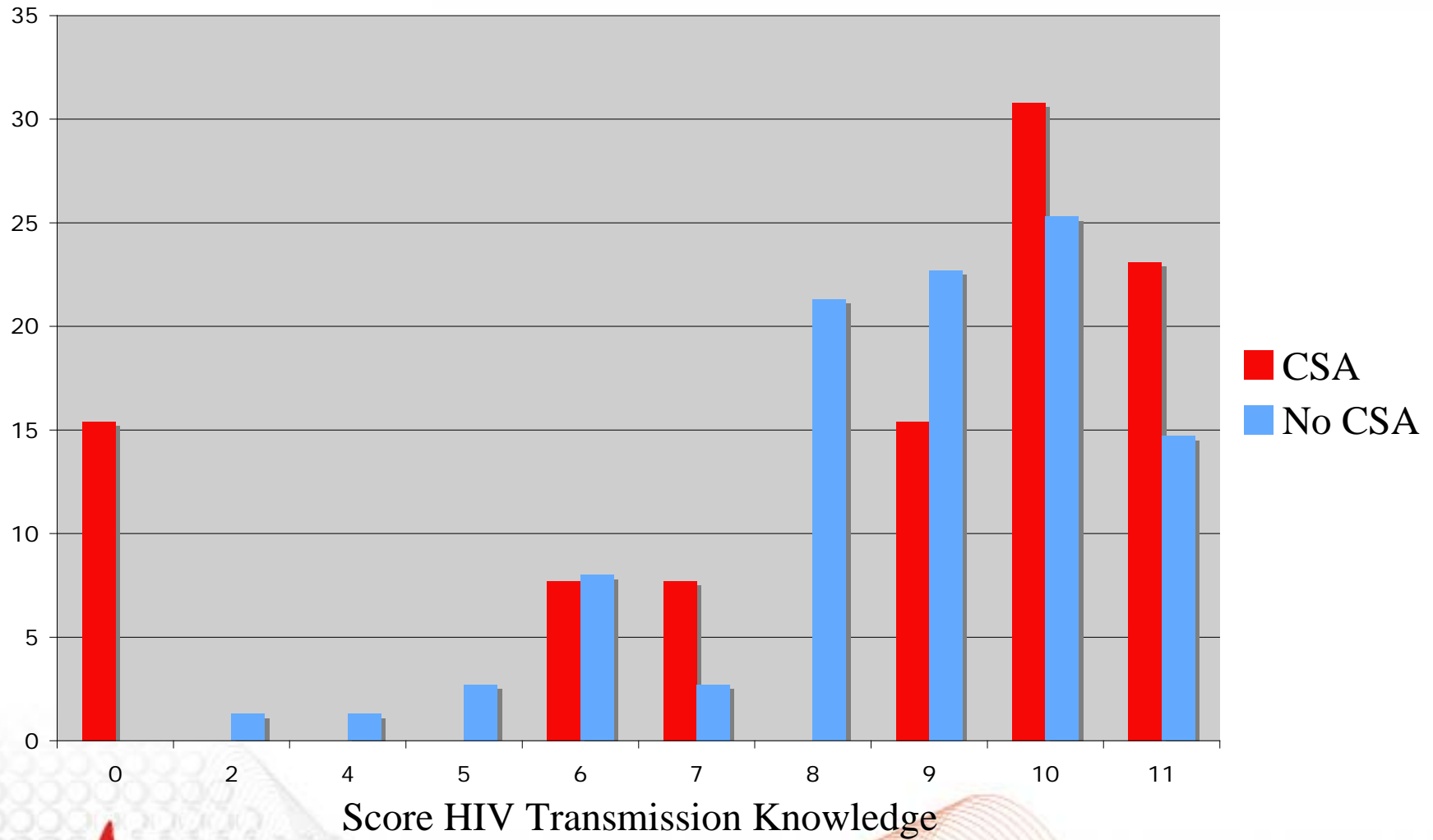


- CSA (<18 years)
- No CSA

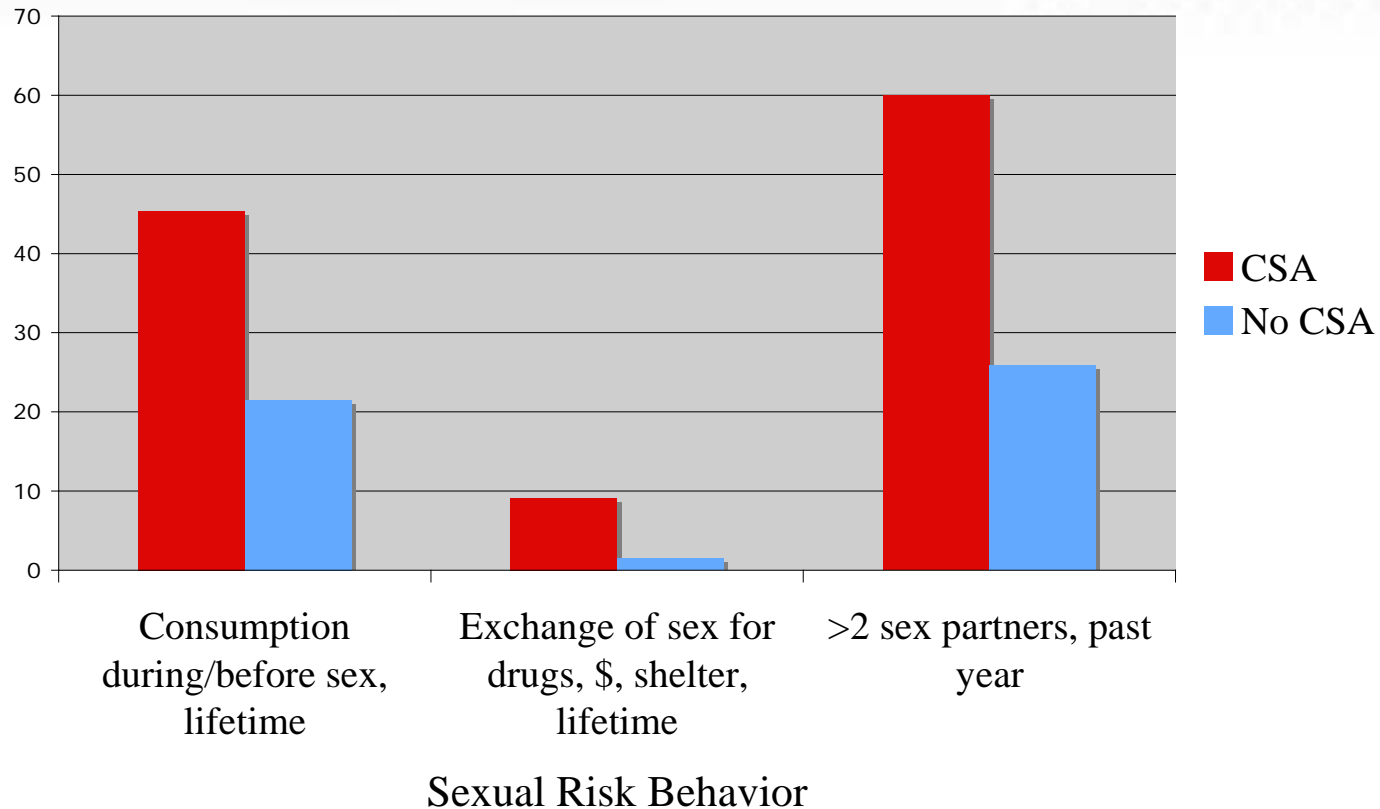
# Correct HIV Transmission Knowledge, by mode CSA vs. No CSA



# General Correct HIV Transmission Knowledge (CSA vs. No CSA)



## Sexual Risk Behaviors (CSA vs. No CSA)

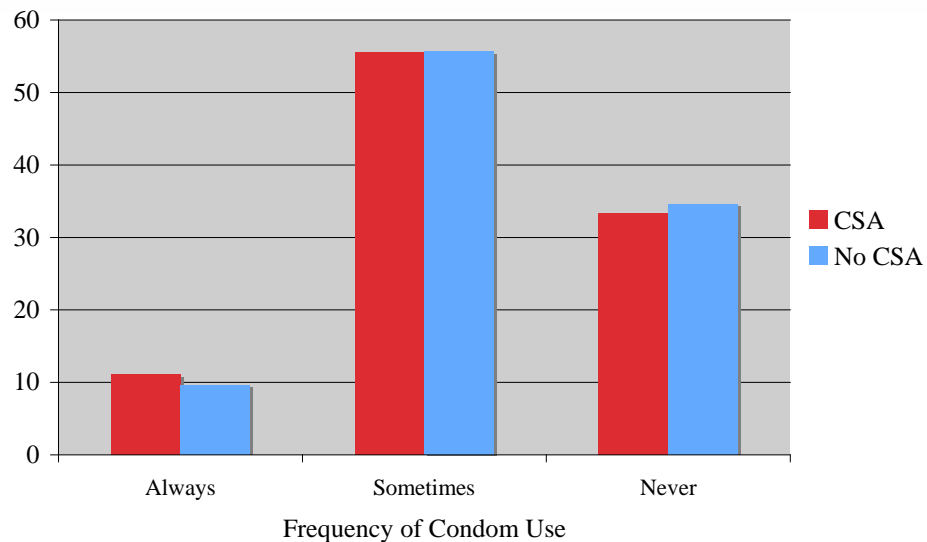


### Condom Use at Sexual Initiation:

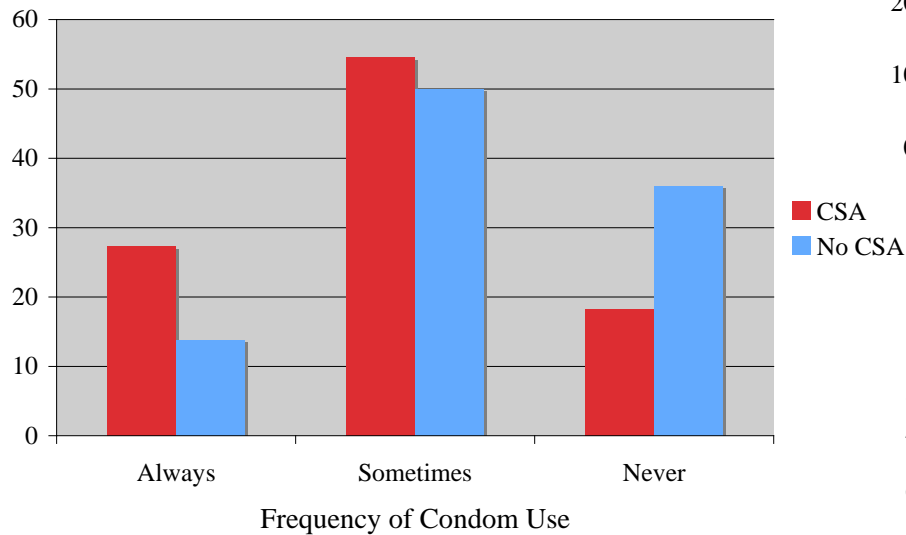
- 60% of sexually-active Non-CSA women used condoms during consented sexual initiation
- 45.5% of sexually-active CSA women used condoms during consented sexual initiation

# Condom Use, CSA vs. No CSA

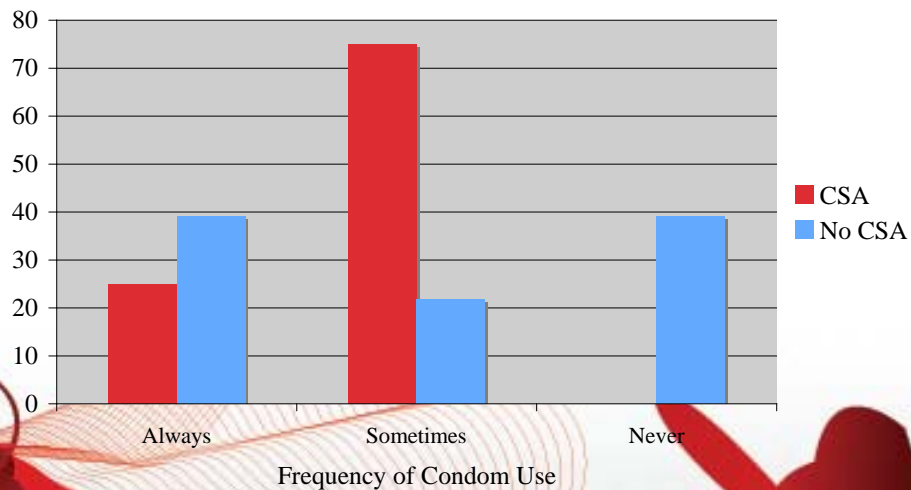
Frequency Condom Use, Stable Sex Partner



Frequency Condom Use, past year

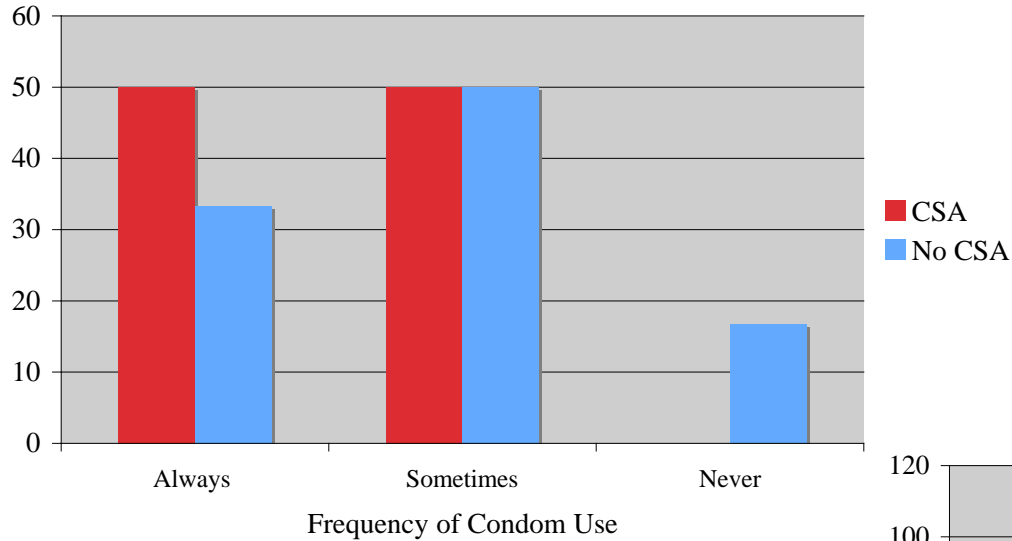


Frequency Condom Use, Occasional Known Sex Partner

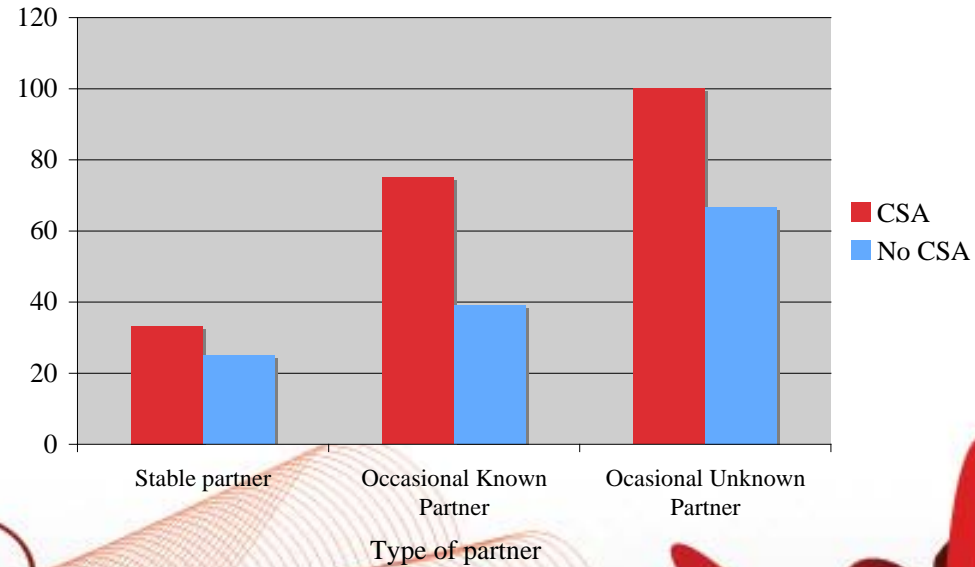


# Condom Use, CSA vs. No CSA

Frequency Condom Use,  
Occasional Unknown Sex Partner



Condom Use, Last Sexual Intercourse



# Preliminary Conclusions

- Study confirms ACASI as an effective tool
- Rate of CSA/sexual violence in sample falls within range reported by international studies
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history report higher rates of:
  - Consumption before/during sex
  - Exchange of sex
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history report:
  - Lower overall HIV transmission knowledge
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history are significantly more likely to:
  - Report multiple sexual partners
- Sample w/ CSA history: using condoms, higher rates of use than non-abused girls

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| ✓ | Lessons learned  |
| ✓ | Limitations      |
| ✓ | Further Research |

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Contact: [ehertzberg@gmail.com](mailto:ehertzberg@gmail.com)

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