Identify Problem and Assess Causes

Propose and Evaluate Policy Solutions

Policy Choice by Decision makers

Implementation and Evaluation

Communication
Policy Continuum: Condoms in CA Prisons

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Background – Condom Distribution in CA

- The first condom distribution program was initiated with the SFHD in the Broward County jail.
- The second program was initiated by Center for Health Justice in collaboration with LASD in November 2001.
Policy Continuum

- Identify Problem and Assess Causes
- Propose & Evaluate Policy Solutions
- Communication
- Policy Choice
- Implement and Evaluate Policy
History: Low access to harm reduction methods in US

- **Condom distribution**
  - Two US prison systems and five US jails provide (generally limited) access to condoms.
    - Vermont/Miss
    - NYC, Wash DC, LA,
    - SF, Philadelphia

- **Safe injection**
  - No US facilities provide needle exchange (1 provides bleach for needle cleaning).
  - Few facilities provide methadone maintenance.
  - None provide safe injection sites

Note: Many of these programs are provided throughout Europe, parts of Central Asia, and in other countries (e.g., Brazil, South Africa, Canada).
Research Publications


Harawa NT, Sweat J, George S, Sylla M. Sex and condom use in a large jail unit for men who have sex with men (MSM) and male-to-female transgenders. J Health Care Poor Underserved. 2010.

Research Publications


Key Research Findings

- Condoms are taken and used
- No impact on jail safety or management
- Machines more accessible & efficient than medical distribution
  - Initial novelty factor
- Prison staff acceptance grows with exposure
- Acceptance/tolerance by people in prison not universal, but can be attained
- Cost effective and cost saving!
Key California Events

- 2006-2008 Bills vetoed AB1677 -- AB1334
- 2007 SF jail condom machine pilot program
- 2008 CDCR Pilot authorized 2008
- 2008-2009 Pilot conducted
- 3/2013 Pilot findings released
  - dated 9/2011
- 2013 AB999 passed
- 2013 AB999 vetoed
- 2014 AB966 passed
- 2014 AB966 signed into law
- 2015 Implementation begins
Take-Home Points

- Collaboration
- Community partnerships
- Identifying points of resistance
- Patience
- Outcomes are dependent on policy, implementation, and practice