

SESSION 19:

Making a soap opera on HIV/AIDS

Objectives

1. Participants will integrate their experience of the past eighteen sessions.
2. Participants will make their past learning personal through developing a situation which allows them to demonstrate their mastery over the concepts.
3. Participants will enhance their learning and integration through applying their own creative processes.
4. Participants will use their group's strengths to cope with an unstructured situation.

Rationale

At this point it is important to provide the group members with an opportunity to pull all of the experiences in the training together. Also they need to make the learning their own.

As the sessions are ending and the formal group will be disbanding, setting up the group so that it can have a final group effort with a successful product is critical in enhancing self esteem, completing the bonding process, and effecting a sense of closure.

A creative venture with a beginning, middle and ending, participating in a lively and fun activity, being able to see oneself through video, and receiving feedback all make the task of performing a soap opera ideal.

Procedures

1. Introduce the group members, having them say who they admire most in the world. Introduce the day's session on making a soap opera. Review homework on other community resources to visit and on screening a friend for how safe they might be. Check Feeling Thermometer levels. Give out tokens for successes practicing safer sex during the past week.
2. Explain the task of making a soap opera.
3. Create the soap opera.
4. Film the soap opera.
5. Watch the film of the soap opera.
6. Review and discuss what they saw and the process of making of the film.

7. Assign homework on what they can do better now than when they started the training.
8. Show appreciation to group members for their contributions to the day's work.
9. Indicate that next time is the last session.

Materials

Tokens

Feeling Thermometers

Video equipment

Blank video tapes

VCR

Props

Makeup

Exercise 1: Introducing and reviewing

Leader says

It's good to see you at Session 19 of "Stay Safe!"

We are going to have a lot of fun today making a soap opera on HIV, filming it and then watching ourselves.

By the way, would each of you hold up the condom that you carry with you at all times?

Have each person hold up a condom that they have been carrying with them. Give tokens to those group members that produce them.

You see, we don't want you to get HIV.

If you already are HIV-positive, we don't want you to make it worse for yourself by getting re-infected.

We want to slow the spread of HIV and AIDS in ourselves, our friends and the community.

I am convinced that you will learn how to take good care of yourselves and that you can make a difference.

By being here at Stay Safe you have already started.

Let's go around and introduce ourselves.

Tell your name and tell us who you admire most in the world.

Just say "I'm Grace, and I admire my mother most."

I'll start. I'm _____ and I admire most _____.

Have everyone give their name and who they admire most in the world.

That was great.

How are you feeling right now on the Feeling Thermometer?

Encourage responding and pass out tokens for participation.

Remember how important it is to stay in touch with how much discomfort you are feeling and to label correctly what those feelings are.

At the end of our visit to the community agency, I asked you to think other places you might like to visit.

What did you select?

Obtain responses and make a list for future visits.

At the end of Session 17 I asked you to ask one friend some questions to find out how safe that person was.

How did that work out?

Encourage sharing of what happened. Give out tokens.

What did you do since we last met to stay safe?

I'm interested in anything you did no matter how important or unimportant it might seem to you.

Every step you take leads you to staying healthy so you can live the kind of life you want.

So what did you do?

Encourage sharing and give out tokens. Catch someone doing something good.

Exercise 2: Getting ready to make a soap opera

I want you to make a soap opera on safer sex, HIV/AIDS.

We will film it here today and then watch it today.

Afterwards we can talk about what we saw.

That means that the actual filming of the soap opera should last no more than 10 minutes.

We want to have enough time to see ourselves and to give feedback.

We have a video recorder here and a VCR.

Also there are props and makeup.

You can make yourselves gorgeous and handsome.

What are some of the kinds of jobs people usually perform in producing a soap opera?

Encourage ideas: script writers, director, camera man or woman, actors, editor, prop mistress.

When you make a soap opera, the actors are filmed live.

It is not like making a movie where you can shoot the scene over and over again until the director thinks that it is right.

You will have 30 minutes to create what you are going to do.

Then we'll film it, watch the film and review it.

The actual performance can't be more than 10 minutes.

Is everybody clear?

My job will be to tell you how much time you have left so that we can get everything in.

Exercise 3: Creating the soap opera

See how much of what you have learned in all these sessions you can get in.

What are the most important things you want to communicate?

So get started creating the soap opera on safer sex and HIV/AIDS.

Make sure people know where the props, makeup, and video equipment are.

Allow 30 minutes for creating the soap opera. Without intruding remind the group of the time and keep to the schedule.

Exercise 4: Filming the soap opera

Now it is time to do the performance and film it.

Have the group members film the production.

That was great!

Give out lots of tokens.

Exercise 5: Watching the film of the soap opera

Now let's get everybody together so you can see what you produced.

Have the group watch the film of their soap opera.

Exercise 6: Reviewing the performance

How do you feel after looking at your production?

Have participants share their feeling thermometer levels.

So what did you think about what you created?

Encourage discussion.

How about giving out strokes for this work of art that all of you made.

Encourage giving appreciation. Hand out tokens for supporting each other.

That was a fantastic job!

For homework I want you to think of something that you can do better now than you could when all this training began.

Was is it that you have become more able to do?

We have reached the end of today's session and remember that the next session will be our last one together.

I will see you at _____ (time) on _____ (date).

END OF SESSION 19