

# Discriminating Partiers

**How gay and bisexual men from  
racialized communities in Toronto  
reduce harms associated with party  
drugs**

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# Background

- 5 Community ASOs
- Party drugs in gay dance scene
- Sense of community part of drug/dance experience
- Party drugs use and high risk sex



# Secondary Data Analysis

- 43 ethnoracially diverse gay and bi men
- Thematic analysis
- Participants defined 'harm'

"Do you know of any risks associated with using drugs?"

"What do you do to minimize the risks?"

# 2° Data Analysis Findings

- Rationing
- Selecting & Mixing
- Quality Control
- Other

# Rationing

- Limiting within a single setting

*“I think I minimize my risks by limiting myself at how much I do when I go out.”*

- Regulating how often use occurs

*“I...time my drug very carefully. Um, I measure my drug use very carefully so I will kind of minimize the day after effect.”*

# Selecting & Mixing

- **Specific drugs**

*“I'm afraid of trying anything else [other than ecstasy] because I know I will get hooked on anything else that I will try.”*

- **No mixing**

*“...I just, I don't mix. I don't mix drugs.”*

- **Specific drug combinations**

*“... if I'm on acid, I can smoke pot and drink beer. If I'm on E, I can still smoke pot and drink beer. If I'm on K, all I can do is drink water.”*

# Quality Control

*“I trust my friend and what he gets... I'm not going to be using bad drugs because he usually uses them first and he says "oh this one's really good", you know, and it makes me feel, you know, safe.”*

# Other Findings

- Preparing for use and aftercare
- Water

*“But to minimize any other risks, uh I take a lot of vitamins. I'm always popping vitamins and drinking tons of water. So I'm not dehydrated and get sick and you know, the common cold effect afterwards.”*

# Discussion

- Advice vs. practice
- Prosaic activities
- Limits of current literature
- Orientation to HIV/STIs

# Implications

- Programs
  - Facilitating vs. introducing
  - Prosaic activities
- Policy
  - Determinants of health approach
- Research
  - Facilitators/barriers to HR implementation

<http://www.projectneon.org/html/meth/topics/money.html>

**PAYING YOUR DEALER AND YOUR RENT**

Can you **ALWAYS** find **MONEY** to get **HIGH**, but **never** enough to **PAY** your phone bill?

Balancing bills and drug use can be hard - but it can be done!

Taking care of your financial health (the same way you take care of your physical health) will keep your dealer, your landlord and yourself very happy!

Money Problems usually happen because:

- 1) You don't have a "plan" for your money, or
- 2) You spend more money than you have (or you don't know where it goes).

Each problem is easy to fix with a little effort.

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**Thank you**