

Concept Mapping STI/HIV Prevention and Condom Use among Young African American Adults

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KEY FINDING

Partner communication self-efficacy was the highest-rated domain for STI/HIV prevention education in this exploratory sample.

4.31 / 5

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Prevention messages need to reflect the experiences and priorities of the people they aim to reach. This study explored how young heterosexual African American adults conceptualized condom use and STI/HIV prevention, using the integrative model of behavior prediction.

PARTICIPANTS & METHODS

43 participants completed sorting and rating. Ages 20-26; mean age 22.4 years (SD 1.4). Participants self-identified as heterosexual and non-Hispanic African American.

- 01

DISCUSS

45 people joined the initial group discussion at a community center.
- 02

SORT & RATE

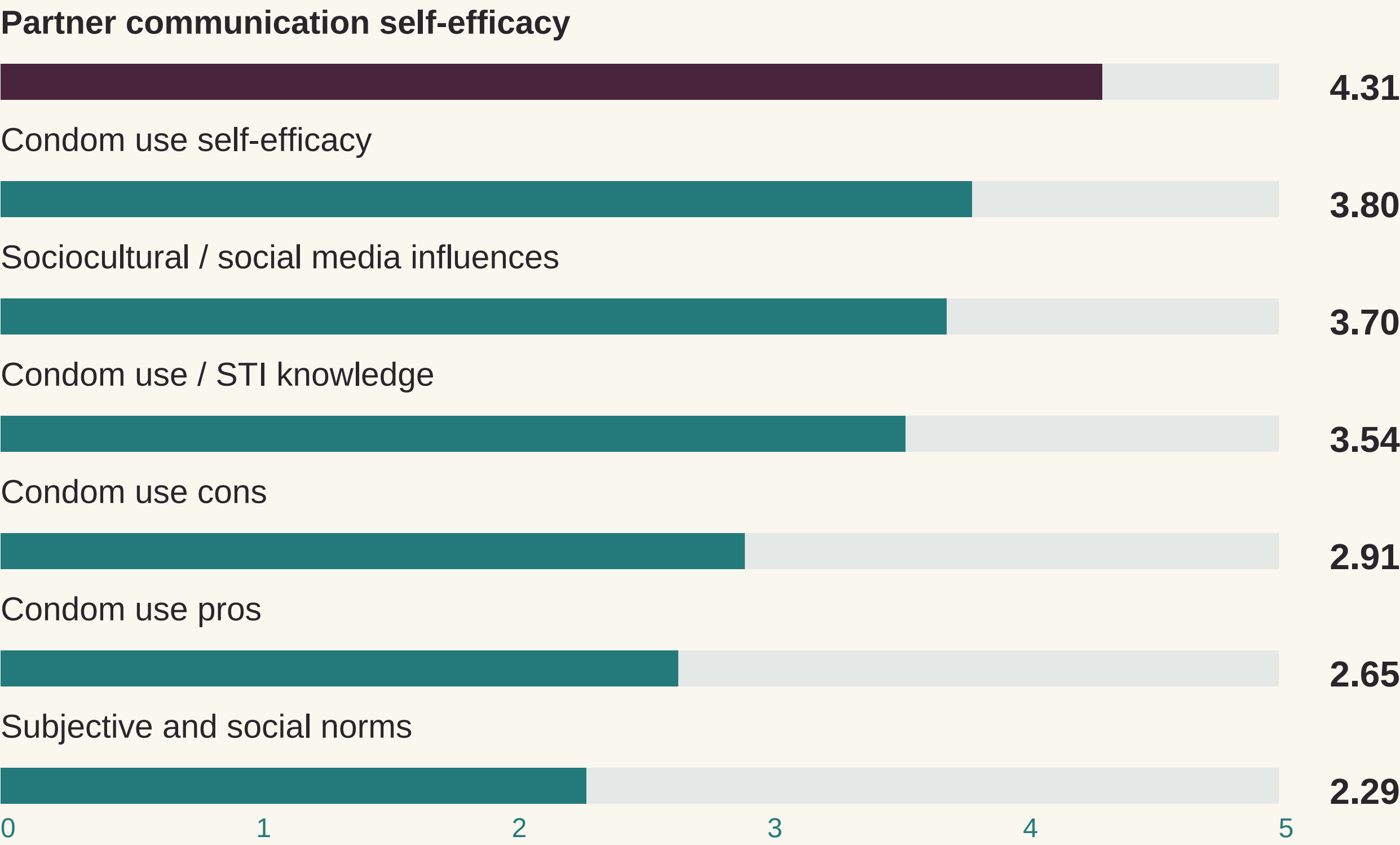
43 participants sorted 67 statements and rated their importance from 1 (not very important) to 5 (very important). Statements combined participant ideas with prior research.
- 03

MAP

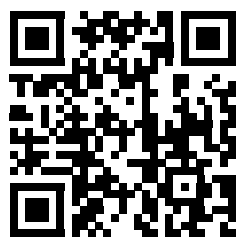
Similarity matrices, multidimensional scaling, and cluster analysis supported a researcher-selected seven-domain solution.

SEVEN DOMAINS OF PREVENTION

Mean importance ratings reported in Table 1



Scale: 1-5. Bars begin at zero. Ratings indicate perceived importance for prevention education, not effects on behavior. Domain labels shortened for readability.



EXPLORE THE FULL STUDY

Scan for the article, original concept map, and complete findings.

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

- Practice partner conversations

Build opportunities to discuss condom use, express preferences, and rehearse communication skills.
- Connect messages to social context

Explore relevant social media approaches and address relationship dynamics and prevention knowledge.
- Address access alongside information

Connect participants with affordable condoms and sexual health resources.

LIMITATIONS

This small, exploratory sample does not support broad generalization. Cluster selection involved researcher interpretation; other map configurations were possible. The study did not test whether an intervention changed behavior or reduced infections.

CONCLUSION

Group concept mapping can help translate participant priorities into prevention program content. Proposed messages and intervention strategies require further evaluation.