

36774

PDAAQ 017

AHFA INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PROJECT

REPORT ON FILM PRESENTATION
AT BRIDGEPORT SECONDARY SCHOOL

May 18, 1980

Dr. Catherine Mumaw

AID/DSPE-G-0010

REPORT ON FILM PRESENTATION
AT BRIDGEPORT SECONDARY SCHOOL

On Sunday, May 18, 1980, I visited Bridgeport Secondary School to show several films on Family Planning to the school's Parent Teachers' Association. Dr. Catherine Mumaw, of Goshen College, my guest, accompanied me and very kindly agreed to be the projectionist. Approximately 200 persons were present including parents, teachers and well wishers.

The chairman of the Parent Teachers' Association and the principal of the school extended welcome after which I explained the purpose of the visit, which were to show the films for entertainment, as well as for their awareness and discussion. Parents were asked to note any points that they would like to discuss after the presentation.

Films shown were:

1. Parent to Child, About Sex : Time 31 minutes
by F. J. Margolis M.D.

Description

The film emphasizes the importance of when and how facts are taught, but underscores the way these facts are taught - the comfortable relationship and the free communication between parent and child which are essential in building a foundation for responsible, healthy, mature attitudes. Parents, children, and medical experts combined in an inter-play of scenes and situations that relate to sex education through childhood and early adolescence.

2. We are Jamaica : Time 25 minutes
by Bureau of Health Education, Kingston, Jamaica

Description

The film shows Jamaica in a number of moods and circumstances with different

2

age groups inter-acting with each other, but at the same time emphasizing different levels of opportunities for different people; some at school, in and drama, and some at work on plantations. Lush Jamaican vegetation and fields come into focus and important persons are on the scene to explain what Jamaica needs in order to move forward. These are:

- (a) What Jamaica needs is more production
- (b) What Jamaica needs is more political power for greater economic stability
- (c) What Jamaica needs is a National policy for population

Problems are presented including insufficient housing, malnutrition, and the guilty male shrinking his responsibilities of caring for a pregnant girl. Over-population is explained by a vast number of children being crowded on to a ground Map of Jamaica.

3. Sex Education in Schools : Time 30 minutes

Description

The film not only emphasizes the need for sex education, but places much stress on what shall be taught and by whom. It shows sex education as the process of development of attitudes and feelings toward masculinity and femininity and toward the opposite sex. In simple language sex education helps us to answer the following questions:

What am I?

Where am I going?

How do my attitudes and beliefs and actions help me to get where I want to go?

Discussion by parents was not as free-flowing as we had expected. However, from discussion by a few parents, the chairman, and the principal of the school drawing from her experience at school, the audience was able to see the

entire presentation as being important. It was agreed that parents should talk with their children, daughters especially, about the facts of sex. Mothers and fathers were encouraged to start talking with their sons and daughters on a friendly basis about sex and family planning. They should be more receptive and should listen to their children's problems which they now prefer to discuss with their guidance counsellors. The audience expressed the wish for more film presentations and I agreed to return with more during September of this year.

Refreshments of delicious cake and drink were provided by the school for the group.