

Northern Cape youths start having sex youngest in country

In a recent survey completed by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), the world’s largest sexual and reproductive health and rights organisation to mark its 60th Anniversary, Northern Cape youths came out as starting the youngest when having sex with 37% having had sex before the age of 16.

The country average, according to the survey, is 33%. 22.6% had sex for the first time between the ages of 14 and 16 and 14.6% before the age of 14.

According to the survey, 22% Northern Cape youths never use contraceptives and 38.5% admitted to only sometimes using contraceptives.

To coincide with the IPPF’s 60th Anniversary, held in Johannesburg this week, and to highlight the urgency of the work which it does, the organisation decided to undertake a quick-fire, broad-brush survey of young people’s attitudes to sex in the host country and three other African nations.

It was quick-fire because it was seeded via mobile phone, it ran for just a week, and it asked just five simple (but telling) questions:

- Where do you learn most about sex?
- When did you first have sex?
- Do you use contraception?
- What one thing worries you most about sex?
- What is the ideal size of a family when it comes to children?

In South Africa, respondents split almost evenly between 16-24 year olds (51%) and 25-34 year olds (49%). This gave IPPF a chance to get a sense of the kinds of shifts that might be going on in behaviour, ideas and practices amongst the rising generation, as against their older counterparts.

When it came to learning about sex, the primary source of information (38%) was friends. Friends can be very helpful, of course, but they can also offer up a rich vein of misinformation. That applied more or less equally across both age groups. TV and media was second (19%), school classes were third (18%), the internet was fourth (14%) and family came in at a worryingly weak 4%.

It’s particularly worrying, given that the other three countries in the survey (Nigeria, Namibia and Zimbabwe) recorded high levels of family involvement in terms of providing information (at 17.2%, 21.6% and 23.6% respectively).

IPPF Director General Tewodros Melesse comments, “The fact that parents are not engaging with their children on sex education is of great concern. Young people need responsible and reliable sources of such information to be properly educated. We really need families to teach young people about sex, sexual health and responsible behaviour. Not speaking about it within the family actually increases the risks rather than preventing them”.

The major discrepancy between the age groups was in the amount they learned at school: for 25-34 year olds, it was markedly less than for 16-24 year olds. Which, from IPPF’s point of view, has to be a better sign. If parents can be persuaded to work in partnership with schools, the prospects for a more comprehensive and accurate education on sex and sexuality are encouraging.

In South Africa, nearly a third of the young people had not had sex. 12% first had sex under the age of 14, 22% at 14-16 years, and 37% had first had sex after 16. The survey showed that slightly more young people today are having sex before the age of 16. But South Africa’s figures on age of first sexual experience are significantly higher than those in Namibia (20%), Nigeria (16%) and Zimbabwe (15%).

Young and old alike showed very similar results with regard to use of contraception. 34% always used it, 36% sometimes used it, and 6%

would have used it, but couldn’t get hold of supplies. It doesn’t take a great mathematician to work out that there’s a further 24% to be accounted for: and that 24% is the group which simply asserted that they *never* used contraception.

Given the nature of people’s worries about sex, that failure to use contraception is bizarre. When asked about their chief worries, the results were clear cut with HIV transmission (42%), unintended pregnancy (32%), and sexually transmitted infections (12%) – all preventable through proper contraception - the foremost concerns. Whether they would enjoy the experience (7%) came in fourth.

But there was a disparity over people’s worries: the older age group was significantly more worried about HIV and AIDS and the enjoyment of sex, but far fewer worrying about unintended pregnancies.

IPPF was particularly curious about preferred family size, given that sub-Saharan Africa has the highest birth rate of any region in the world. Over 84% of respondents wanted no more than 3 children.

The key points which emerged from the survey were the need for proper sex education and the need to promote family support to enhance its impact and effectiveness; and the importance of enabling young people to access information, services and supplies freely, without fear of judgement or censure, so that they can lead fulfilling sex lives without worry over possible negative outcomes.

For IPPF, the findings do not come as a major surprise: they emphasise once more the urgency and importance of the Federation’s work worldwide. But as the newly-formed organisation Sharissa (IPPF’s latest partner) opens its doors in South Africa, the figures demonstrate just how needed they will be, and just what they can do to make the most effective impact on the health of future generations, and the health of the nation.

KWV DISTILLERY& OWK WINES, UPINGTON

ENVIROAFRICA CC

NEM: WA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

KWV UPINGTON EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT FACILITY (ERF 5410, UPINGTON INDUSTRIA):

LICENSING AND EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING TREATMENT FACILITY

DEA REF NO: 12/9/11/L1096/8

Notice is hereby given of the public participation process in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008), (“NEM: WA”) and the Listed waste management activities (2009). The proposed licensing and expansion (with associated infrastructure) triggers the following listed activities in terms of the NEM: WA, listed waste management activities (2009). EnviroAfrica cc has been appointed by KWV Distillery and OWK Wines, to undertake a (*Full Scoping and EIA*), **LICENSE APPLICATION** for the proposed project.

Application for environmental authorization to undertake the following activities:

Government Notice 718: Category A: Activity No. **1 & 12**

Government Notice 718: Category B: Activity No. **7**

Project Description & Location: It is proposed to upgrade the existing treatment facility in order to be able to adequately treat the volumes of wastewater on the site and to license the facility in terms of the National Environmental Management Waste Act. At present the facility is not licensed in terms of NEM: WA or able to adequately treat the wastewater disposed onto the site.

Public Participation: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby notified of the application and invited to register (in writing) and/or provide initial comments and identify any issues, concerns or opportunities relating to this project to the contact details provided below, **on or before 1st of February 2013.**

In order to register or submit comment, I&APs should refer to the project name and DEA reference number above, and provide their name, address & contact details (*indicating your preferred method of notification*) and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest which they have in the application. Please note that future correspondence will only be sent to registered Interested and Affected Parties. You are also requested to pass this information to any person you feel should be notified.

Consultant: EnviroAfrica (P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135, Fax: 086 512 0154 / Tel: 021 8511616 / E-mail: admin@enviroafrica.co.za)

//KHARA HAIS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

ENVIROAFRICA CC

NEM:WA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

THE PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE LOUISVALE ROAD OXIDATION POND WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM. LOUISVALE ROAD, NORTHERN CAPE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (DEA) REF NO: 12/9/11/L1077/8

Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (“NEM:WA”); for the application for a waste management license.

EnviroAfrica cc has been appointed by //Khara Hais Local Municipality, to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. A Waste License Application Form was submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs.

According to Section 19 (1) of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (No.59 of 2008) a Waste Licence is required for the following activities related to the proposed upgrade and extension of the Louisvale Road Waste Water Treatment System:

Category A Activities (Basic Assessment): 18; 19

Category B Activities (Scoping and EIA): 7; 11

A person who wishes to commence, undertake or conduct an activity listed under the above Category, must conduct an environmental impact assessment process, as stipulated in the environmental impact assessment regulations made under section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, as part of a waste management license application

Application has been made to the Competent Authority to follow a Basic Assessment process, instead of a Scoping and Environmental Impact Report.

Project Description & Location: The site is located at the existing Louisvale Road Oxidation Pond System on Erf 1036 Louisvale Road (Olyvenhoutsdrift Settlement), off the N10, near Upington.

It is proposed that the two anaerobic ponds be increased from their current area of 1 472m² each to a new area of 3 231m² each. In addition, the existing Facultative Pond is to be increased from its current size of 7760m² to a new proposed area of 13 300m². The latter will now occupy area currently utilized by secondary ponds. Subsequently, at least 2 new secondary aerobic ponds as well as a new Storage Pond will need to be constructed.

The Louisvale Road Oxidation Ponds are currently unlined and it is proposed that the newly constructed ponds which receive the raw sewage will now be lined with an HDPE membrane. All ponds will also be cleaned during construction. Further developments proposed for this contract include:

- Repairs and extension to the existing fencing.
- Repairs and renovations to the existing municipal worker restroom and ablution facility.
- Sinking of two monitoring boreholes (one upstream and one downstream)
- Rerouting of the dry water course located on site around the existing and proposed ponds

Application for exemption: The applicant is intending to apply for exemption from Regulation 10(2)(d) of Government Notice No. R543, which states that the applicant must within 12 days of the date of the decision, place a notice in the same newspaper(s) used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process, informing Interested and Affected Parties of the decision, where the decision can be accessed and the right to appeal. Registered I&AP’s will be notified of the decision by post and/or preferred method of communication.

Public Participation: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby notified of the application and invited to register (in writing) and/or provide initial comments and identify any issues, concerns or opportunities relating to this project to the contact details provided below, **on or before 01 February 2013.** In order to register or submit comment, I&APs should refer to the project name and DEA reference number above, and provide their name, address & contact details (*indicating your preferred method of notification*) and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest which they have in the application. Please note that future correspondence will only be sent to registered Interested and Affected Parties. You are also requested to pass this information to any person you feel should be notified.

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“Dankie”

Aan die Bestuur, Dokters ,verpleegsters en skoonmaakpersoneel, Gordonia Hospitaal, UPINGTON

Ek wil graag langs die weg vir u almal baie dankie sê vir die behandeling wat ek in Oktober en November vanjaar in die hospitaal ontvang het. Ek kan net met lof praat van hoe toegewyd u is en met hoeveel respek u my behandel het. U taak is moeilik omdat die pasiënte met wie u elke dag moet werk u geduld soms baie beproef.

Mag die Here u baie krag gee vir die uitdagende taak veral nou dat die feesgety op hande is. Dankie dat u onder al die druk nog my nonsens kon verdra en saam met my familie en met my kon lag .

- *Floors Coetzee, UPINGTON*