- 29 **National Drug Research Institute, The Lewin-Fordham Group.** The public health, safety and economic benefits of the Northern Territory's Living with Alcohol program 1992/3 to 1995/6. Perth: Curtin University of Technology, 1999:11.
- 30 **Kunitz SJ.** *Disease and social diversity. The European impact on the health of non-Europeans.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1994:7.
- 31 **National Campaign Against Drug Abuse Task Force on Evaluation.** National Campaign Against Drug Abuse 1985–1988. *Report of the NCADA Task Force on Evaluation to the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy.* Canberra: NCADA, 1989:26.
- 32 **Office of Evaluation and Audit.** *ATSIC substance abuse evaluation report.* Canberra: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, 1996.
- 33 **Pearson N.** *Our right to take responsibility.* Cairns: Noel Pearson and Associates Pty Ltd, 2000.
- 34 **Phillips G.** *Addictions and healing in Aboriginal country.* Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press, 2003, 129,156.
- 35 **Mallett L.** Interview with Linda Mallett, Director of the Alcohol & Drug Council of Australia. *Connexions*, 1994;Oct/Nov, 18.
- 36 **Torres MI, Mattick RP, Chen R, et al.** *Clients of treatment service agencies: census findings.* Canberra: Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health, 1995.
- 37 **Gray D, Sputore B, Stearne A, et al.** *Indigenous drug and alcohol projects 1999–2000, Research Paper no.4.* Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs, 2002.
- 38 **Babor T, Caetano R, Casswell S, et al.** *Alcohol: no ordinary commodity. Research and public policy.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- 39 **Gray D, Saggars S, Sputore B, et al.** What works? A review of evaluated alcohol misuse interventions among Aboriginal Australians. *Addiction* 2000;**95**(1):11–22.
- 40 **National Drug Research Institute, The Centre for Adolescent Health.** *The prevention of substance use, risk and harm in Australia: a review of the evidence.* Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs, 2004:35.
- 41 **Brady M.** *The grog book. strengthening Indigenous community action on alcohol.* Rev edn. Canberra: Department of Health and Ageing, 2005:164.
- 42 **In: Carson B, Dunbar T, Chenhall RD, et al. eds.** *Social determinants of Indigenous health.* Sydney: Allen and Unwin, 2007.
- 43 **Royal Australasian College of Physicians.** *For richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health ... the socio-economic determinants of health.* Sydney: Royal Australasian College of Physicians, 1999.
- 44 **Tsey K, Whiteside M, Deemal A, et al.** Social determinants of health, the 'control factor' and the Family Wellbeing Empowerment Program. *Australas Psychiatry* 2003;**11**:S34–9.
- 45 **Hunter E.** Commonality, difference and confusion: changing constructions of Indigenous mental health. *Australian e-Journal for the Advancement of Mental Health*. 2004;3: 1–4. www.auseinet.com/journal/vol3iss3/huntereditorial.pdf.
- 46 **Shore C, Wright S.** Policy. A new field of anthropology. In: Shore C, Wright S, eds, *Anthropology of policy. Critical perspectives in governance and power.* London: Routledge, 1997:3–39.
- 47 **Ministerial Council on Drugs Strategy.** *National drug strategy. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples complementary action plan 2003–2006.* Canberra: National Drug Strategy Unit, 2003.

THE JECH GALLERY

Double standards in sex: differences between social expectation and practice among early school leavers

In Hong Kong, premarital, unprotected sex is common among early school leavers.¹ Although sex education can to some extent provide information about safe sex and teach the skills needed,² the stigma associated with sex in a wider social context prevents this group from practising it. Chinese culture has historically denounced premarital or extramarital sex, with women's virginity and sexual fidelity being highly prized.³ Based on the belief that the stigmatisation of sex has resulted from social and cultural values and the filtering of public policy into the daily lives of young people (e.g. a lack of sex education outside school systems), a number of cognitive and behavioural strategies have been developed for adolescents as a means of coping with the stress and social pressure they face in this regard. These strategies aim to help individuals draw a boundary between others' expectation and personal preference. By encouraging young people to articulate and express love in ways other than through

Figure 1

sex, and by empowering them by, for example, improving their existential and contingency control, they will be able to overcome the stigmatisation associated with sex, and this, in turn, will be effective in promoting safe sex.

W C W Wong
School of Public Health, The Chinese University of
Hong Kong

doi: 10.1136/jech.2006.056390

Correspondence to: Dr William C W Wong, Assistant Professor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Room 408, School of Public Health, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, Hong Kong; cwwong@cuhk.edu.hk

References

- 1 **Lam TH, Janghorbani M, Fan S, et al.** Hong Kong Task Force on Youth Sexuality Study, Family Planning Association of Hong Kong. Voluntary HIV antibody testing amongst youth in Hong Kong. *Int J STD & AIDS* 2003;**14**(2):132–8.
- 2 **DiCenso A, Guyatt, Griffiths WL.** Interventions to reduce unintended pregnancies among adolescents: systematic review of randomised controlled trials. *BMJ* 2002;**324**:1405–64.
- 3 **Liu H, Hu Z, Li X, et al.** Understanding interrelationships among HIV-related stigma, concern about HIV infection, and intent to disclose HIV serostatus: A pretest posttest study in a rural area of eastern China. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs* 2006;**20**(2):133–42.