

2. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

In this section, we first need to present the hypotheses, latter the conceptual framework, which will be prior to the definition of our concepts.

From then on, we started asking ourselves the following questions:

- Generally, do men have a different behavior towards condoms based on their social stratification?
- What are the levels and the social variability of the non-use of condoms among married men?

This study has as principal aim to supply necessary information, for the setting up and orientation of prevention programs against HIV/AIDS. More specifically we are making reference to:

- Determine the level of the non-use of condoms;
- Identify to the individual level, the explanatory factors of the non use of the condom at the men in union.

Hypotheses

a) Fundamental Hypothesis

This hypothesis announces itself thus: social stratification in Cameroon differentiates men when talking about the non-use of condoms.

b) Derived hypothesis

The specific hypotheses that these studies target to verify are:

1st Hypothesis:

Urbanization exercises a significant influence over the non-use of condoms by men. We then expect prevalence in this phenomenon in the urban areas than the rural areas.

2nd Hypothesis:

Ethnic cultural membership more precisely determines in different ways the non-use of condoms by men through attitudes and perceptions together with the practices it leads and confers.

3rd Hypothesis:

The degree at which the individual is exposed to the knowledge of HIV/AIDS and condoms usually influences the failures of the non-use of condoms among men.

4th Hypothesis:

The individual perception concerning the risks of contracting an STI/AIDS generally influences the non-use of condoms among men.

3. UNIT OF ANALYSIS

The Demographic and Health Survey of Cameroon (DHSC) constitutes the source of figures of these studies.

4. ANALYTIC FRAMEWORK OF STUDY

Social stratification in Cameroon is in such a way that the various different behaviors among men as regard the non-use of condoms can be understood through the following procedures:

Factors of modernization interact with one's culture of origin on the non-use of condoms, directly or indirectly, through ones level of knowledge concern HIV/condoms. Moreover, cultural characteristics influence the non-use of condoms. On the other hand, the exposure to knowledge concerning HIV and condoms will influence the use of preservatives through the attitude and the perception of risk of contracting AIDS. Finally, the effects of attitudes and individual perception concerning condoms and the risks of contracting HIV over the non-use of condoms will be mediatized by the geographic and economic accessibility of the latter.