media mission impossible!

hollywood street youth take on hiv/aids (and explore linguistic style along the way...)

WHAT ARE THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN HOLLYWOOD'S STREET YOUTH, COMMUNITY AND ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKS? HOW IS HEALTH KNOWLEDGE TRANSFERRED THROUGH COMPLEX PLACE BASED AND VIRTUAL NETWORKS?

HOW DO YOUTH IN THE PROGRAM ENCOUNTER AND UNDERSTAND DIFFERENCES—ETIC, LANGUAGES AND STYLISTIC—RISK BEHAVIOR AND EVENTUALLY LOSE ITS TRANSMISSION ROUTE?

DOES PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVIST ART MAKING HELP YOUTH TO THINK IN NEW WAYS ABOUT RISKY BEHAVIORS?

1. a style dilemma...

styles of hollywood street youth

gangsta YUPPY GONE CRAZY classy rap rock punk techno EBONICS travellers

sexualities: gay, straight, lesbian, bi, trans
from: L.A., U.S.A, Mexico, Russia, Somalia, India
living in: squats, shelters, friends' places
(as identified by a diverse group of 7 youth)

Preliminary findings

> To create media, youth played with a range of linguistic and visual styles. They also discussed and debated the value of different styles in making an impact on subcultures of HIV transmission.

> Media production afforded opportunities for open-ended conversations about sex and drug risk behaviors. Youth explored possible long term consequences of actions through fictional scenarios.

> Youth expressed feelings of empowerment through the opportunity to make media and do face to face street outreach. In workshop evaluations, they constantly mentioned enjoying the collaboration with other youth.

2. cops and kids...

3. video outreach...

...developed collaboratively by Eye Tulbert (UCLA, Linguistic Anthropology), Professor Eric Rice (USC, School of Social Work), and staff and clients of a Hollywood agency for street youth. Funded with a grant from National Institute of Mental Health grant 5R13MH080605

The data exhibited here were part of a 8 week pilot program (32 hours of recordings, photos, youth writings, and

in Summer 2009, we will pilot the intervention with daily arts programs and peer-to-peer outreach using media.

imagine this...

You are a homeless teen living in Hollywood. You are hired to reduce the epidemic level rates of HIV transmission in your community. You have access to cameras, computers, and recorders. where do you begin?

what do you do?