Dateline Nigeria (Part 3): Creating Solutions When Despite Public Service Announcements, Ads, & Documentaries, Many Women Were Still Not Seeking Life-Saving Treatment

By Andrew Holtz, MPH

“Samu,” That’s “Hello” in Hausa, the dominant language of northern Nigeria and southern Niger. Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslim and there are also strong local traditions. If you think that sometimes your patients don’t seem to really hear what you’ve said, or you don’t understand why a health education campaign does not seem to get through to people in your community…well, just imagine what health educators face in Hausa land.

When I sat down to talk with the head of the BBC World Service Trust’s HIV/AIDS project in Nigeria during a recent visit to Abuja, Christine K and her colleagues had just returned from Kano, in northern Nigeria. They had been summoned by a committee of the Islamic Shari’ah Council there.

“If you want to be on-air at all and you want to have an audience, you cannot, under the current Shari’ah Law regime in Kano state say ‘sex,’” she said.

But how do you talk about HIV without saying ‘sex’? She said you talk about equitable relationships and datings.

S

By Andrew Holtz, MPH

“Samu,” That’s “Hello” in Hausa, the dominant language of northern Nigeria and southern Niger. Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslim and there are also strong local traditions. If you think that sometimes your patients don’t seem to really hear what you’ve said, or you don’t understand why a health education campaign does not seem to get through to people in your community…well, just imagine what health educators face in Hausa land.

When I sat down to talk with the head of the BBC World Service Trust’s HIV/AIDS project in Nigeria during a recent visit to Abuja, Christine K and her colleagues had just returned from Kano, in northern Nigeria. They had been summoned by a committee of the Islamic Shari’ah Council there.

“If you want to be on-air at all and you want to have an audience, you cannot, under the current Shari’ah Law regime in Kano state say ‘sex,’” she said.

But how do you talk about HIV without saying ‘sex’? She said you talk about equitable relationships and datings.

S

By Andrew Holtz, MPH

“Samu,” That’s “Hello” in Hausa, the dominant language of northern Nigeria and southern Niger. Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslim and there are also strong local traditions. If you think that sometimes your patients don’t seem to really hear what you’ve said, or you don’t understand why a health education campaign does not seem to get through to people in your community…well, just imagine what health educators face in Hausa land.

When I sat down to talk with the head of the BBC World Service Trust’s HIV/AIDS project in Nigeria during a recent visit to Abuja, Christine K and her colleagues had just returned from Kano, in northern Nigeria. They had been summoned by a committee of the Islamic Shari’ah Council there.

“If you want to be on-air at all and you want to have an audience, you cannot, under the current Shari’ah Law regime in Kano state say ‘sex,’” she said.

But how do you talk about HIV without saying ‘sex’? She said you talk about equitable relationships and datings.

S

By Andrew Holtz, MPH

“Samu,” That’s “Hello” in Hausa, the dominant language of northern Nigeria and southern Niger. Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslim and there are also strong local traditions. If you think that sometimes your patients don’t seem to really hear what you’ve said, or you don’t understand why a health education campaign does not seem to get through to people in your community…well, just imagine what health educators face in Hausa land.

When I sat down to talk with the head of the BBC World Service Trust’s HIV/AIDS project in Nigeria during a recent visit to Abuja, Christine K and her colleagues had just returned from Kano, in northern Nigeria. They had been summoned by a committee of the Islamic Shari’ah Council there.

“If you want to be on-air at all and you want to have an audience, you cannot, under the current Shari’ah Law regime in Kano state say ‘sex,’” she said.

But how do you talk about HIV without saying ‘sex’? She said you talk about equitable relationships and datings.

S

By Andrew Holtz, MPH

“Samu,” That’s “Hello” in Hausa, the dominant language of northern Nigeria and southern Niger. Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslim and there are also strong local traditions. If you think that sometimes your patients don’t seem to really hear what you’ve said, or you don’t understand why a health education campaign does not seem to get through to people in your community…well, just imagine what health educators face in Hausa land.

When I sat down to talk with the head of the BBC World Service Trust’s HIV/AIDS project in Nigeria during a recent visit to Abuja, Christine K and her colleagues had just returned from Kano, in northern Nigeria. They had been summoned by a committee of the Islamic Shari’ah Council there.

“If you want to be on-air at all and you want to have an audience, you cannot, under the current Shari’ah Law regime in Kano state say ‘sex,’” she said.

But how do you talk about HIV without saying ‘sex’? She said you talk about equitable relationships and datings.
IP Therapy Still Overlooked for Ovarian Cancer

By Brande Victorian

NEW YORK CITY—Issues of toxicity and complexity continue to concern clinicians in deciding about using intraperitoneal therapy for ovarian cancer. Abandoned because of the toxicity of the available chemotherapeutic agents at the time and the ability to deliver drugs intravenously, the concept was largely abandoned. It wasn’t until 1978 that the concept reemerged with a study by Robert Dedrick, PhD, et al published in Cancer Therapy Reports indicating that certain drugs placed in the peritoneal cavity could exhibit dramatic pharmacokinetic advantage for the tumor present in that compartment of the body.

(continued on page 56)

ScriptDoctor

continued from page 54

Obstetric fistula caused by untreated prolonged or obstructed labor is almost unknown in the United States, but it is dismayingly common in northern Nigeria.

pregnancy carries health risks for women.

‘See the Characters as Human Beings’

“One striking thing that surprises me every day is that people can actually identify our characters, people can actually tell you the circumstances, people see the characters as human beings,” Asangaeneng said, adding that the characters have become role models, their names entering everyday conversations.

The believability of the characters sometimes even has consequences for the actors. “I remember once in Tanzania, during a [Population Media Center] program,” Asangaeneng recalled, “the actor of a particular character that was against gender equity was pelted with tomatoes by women in the market, because they believed his actions were real. They never even considered he was [acting] in the context of a drama.”