

Supplemental methods section

1- Process used for the mapping of prostitution sites and sex workers in Benin conducted by NACP at the end of 2011.

The mapping is the initial step prior to the Integrated Biological and Behavioural Survey (IBBS) of the HIV epidemic which is conducted every two years by the National AIDS control program. It is to map prostitution sites and collect detailed data allowing to estimate the sex worker population size as well as their typology. It consists of:

- Locating and identifying all sites of prostitution in Benin; and
- Identifying all types of sex workers (SW) (official or professional and clandestine), including waitresses and bar staff.

Methodological approach and definition of variables

This is a cross-sectional study, which took place from 27 October to 6 November 2011, covering all sites of prostitution and SWs throughout the national territory. All existing prostitution sites in 77 municipalities, in both urban and rural areas, were systematically identified and listed by investigators, with the help of guides and key informants.

There are many types of prostitution sites and places where paid sexual services are negotiated and/or occur. These are brothels, hotels, motels, hostels, public squares, streets, etc .where SWs are selling sex in exchange for money. SWs are defined as women receiving money or presents in exchange for sex.

Method and instruments for collecting data

Sites were identified through semi-structured interviews with key informants (guides, bartenders, hotel managers, leaders/managers of sites, etc). A data file was created to include a record of basic features of each site (mainly type) and its members (main demographic characteristics such as age and nationality). Each locality (district) is

ranked, village by village and district by district. The door to door process involved enabled the investigator to identify the sites and become familiar with the responsible people or required resources. The instrument employed was the census form mapping sites of prostitution which has three main components: identification data for each site, site location data, and descriptive data of the site, including the estimated number of SWs. The methodological mapping aimed to provide a representative picture of the situation of SWs in Benin.

2- Questionnaire development measuring psychological variables

The questionnaire was developed in accordance with the methodology recommended by Ajzen,²⁷ applying the approach described by Gagné & Godin.²⁸ The behaviour under study was defined in terms of action (performance), target (HIV testing), context (in an appropriate health service: SA), and time (in the next three months). A qualitative study was first conducted in order to determine salient beliefs regarding FSWs' examined behaviour. Individual semi-structured interviews were conducted with 66 FSWs. Open questions made it possible to identify the perceived advantages and disadvantages of being HIV tested in the next three months, and the significant persons who would approve or disapprove of this behaviour, as well as the perceived barriers and facilitators to this behaviour. Qualitative analysis of interview content was carried out by one author (GB) and validated by another (MPG). The information gathered was used to develop the questionnaire.¹⁰ We performed test-retest validation of the questionnaire among 30 FSWs from the population studied. The questionnaire was administered twice within an interval of two weeks.

**QUANTITATIVE SURVEY AMONG FEMALE SEX WORKER (FSWS) IN BÉNIN,
PROJET ÉQUITÉ EN SANTÉ: RESEARCH APPROACHES WITH THE OBJECTIVE
OF HEALTHCARE EQUITY IN THE BENINESE PROSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FEMALE SEX WORKERS

A1 Number of questionnaire (NOT TO BE FILLED IN)

..... [__|__|__|__]

A2 Interviewer : Name _____ Code __|__|

A3 Date of the survey : Day __|__| Month __|__|

A4 Starting time _____ Time of completion

A5 Type of locality : City __|__| Compound __|__|

A6 Department _____
__|__|

A7 Township _____
__|__|

A8 District/Village _____
__|__|

A9 Name of the place _____ Code
__|__|

A10 Language of the interview: _____
__|__|

A11 Checked by the team leader: Name _____
Signature _____

Date __D__/_M__/_A__

Investigator's Visit

	1st Visit	2 nd Visit	3rd Visit
Date	____/____/____ D M Y	____/____/____ D M Y	____/____/____ D M Y
Result			

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

Results-Codes: **Completed interview** = 1, **Interviewee absent** = 2,
Refused to participate = 3, **Interview not completed** = 4, **Other** = 5_____

Not to be completed

A14 Checked by the supervisor: Name

_____Signature_____

Date __D__/_M__/_Y__

SECTION: SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

No.	Questions and filters	Answers and Codes	Shift to
Q01	When were you born (in which month and year)? <i>INTERVIEWER, if the interviewee knows her exact date of birth note it; if not circle the code corresponding to the month or the year.</i> <i>Or</i> How old are you currently? <i>INTERVIEWER, insist on obtaining the age, and then compare it and correct it, if need be, according to the birth date. In all cases, estimate the best answer.</i>	Month [__][__] Year [__][__][__][__] Don't know the month 88 No answer 99 Don't know the year 88 No answer 99 Age in full years [__][__]	
Q02	What is your nationality? <i>INTERVIEWER, circle only one answer.</i>	Beninese----- 1 Ghanaian----- 2 Togolese----- 3 Nigerian----- 4 Other, specify _____ 5 No answer-----9	
Q03	What is your religion ? <i>INTERVIEWER, circle only one answer</i>	Traditional----- 1 Catholic----- 2 Presbyterian----- 3 Other Christian----- 4 Muslim----- 5 Other religion _____ 6 No religion -----7 Don't know----- 8 No answer -----9	
Q04	What is the highest level of education you have attained: primary, secondary school, or higher education? <i>INTERVIEWER , circle only one answer.</i>	No education----- -0 Primary----- 1 Secondary----- 2 Higher education-----. 3	
Q05	What is your marital status? <i>INTERVIEWER:</i> List the possibilities. There can be more than one answer circled.	Married..... 1 Separated..... 2 Widow 3 Single 4 I have a boy friend 5	

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

		No answer----- 9	
Q06	Are you currently living with your husband or boyfriend (regular sexual partner)?	yes 1 No 2	
Q07	How many (biological) children do you have?	Number of children _ _	
Q08	For how many people (children, parents, or others) are you presently responsible?	Number of people _ _	
Q09	How old were you when you had sex for the first time/when you first had sexual intercourse ?	Age in years _ _ Don't know 88 No answer 99	
Q10	How old were you the first time you had sex for money or goods ?	Age in years _ _ Don't know 88 No answer 99	

SECTION: BEHAVIOUR WITH REGARDS TO VCT AND PERCEIVED RISK

N°	Question	Response	Note
Q66	I don't want to know the result but have you already had a test to learn your serological status (to know whether you are HIV positive)? If yes: When was your last HIV test? INTERVIEWER. Circle the answer	Yes 1 No 2 During the last 3 months.....1 During the last 6 months.....2 During the last 12 months.....3 Between 12 months and 3 years ago4 More than 3 years ago5 Don't know 8 No answer 9	2 → Q76
Q67	Where (health centre, mobile private clinic, or other) did you have this last test?	place : _____	
Q68	Please don't tell me the result, but did you go to obtain the result of your test? INTERVIEWER: circle the answer	Yes 1 No 2	→ Q70

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

		No answer 9	
Q69	<p>To whom did you announce the result of the test?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER: Circle the answer</p>	<p>Community organizer..... 1</p> <p>Regular sexual partner 2</p> <p>Boyfriend 3</p> <p>Relative/Parent/Family (specify)_____ 4</p> <p>Healthcare worker 5</p> <p>Colleague (Sex workers) 6</p> <p>Friend..... 7</p> <p>Others (specify) 8</p> <p>I told nobody 9</p>	
Q70	<p>During the last 12 months, how often did you have an HIV test?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER. <i>Circle the answer</i></p>	<p>Never..... 1</p> <p>Once 2</p> <p>Twice..... 3</p> <p>Three times..... 4</p> <p>Four times or more..... 5</p> <p>Don't know 8</p> <p>No answer 9</p>	
Q71	<p>Why did you have an HIV test?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER. <i>Circle the answer</i></p>	<p>Because I lost a lot of weight..... 1</p> <p>Because I am very sick 2</p> <p>Because I am worried about having the AIDS virus 3</p> <p>Because a healthcare worker came to the site to suggest I go for screening 4</p> <p>Because a healthcare worker at the health centre suggested it..... 5</p> <p>Because I want to know my condition/status 6</p> <p>Others (specify)_____ 7</p>	
Q72	<p>At the conclusion of one of your HIV tests, did they suggest particular drugs and services to you and did you then follow their advice?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER: Circle the answer</p>	<p>Yes 1</p> <p>No 2</p>	

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

Q73	<p>a- Are you currently taking specific medication against the AIDS virus (ARV or CTM) provided by an approved hospital/clinic?</p> <p>b- If so, what is the name of this hospital/clinic?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes 1</p> <p style="text-align: right;">No 2</p> <p>Name _____</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2 → Q77</p>
Q74	What is your current opinion of the health services or care you received at this centre/hospital?	<p>Very good _____ 1</p> <p>Good _____ 2</p> <p>Acceptable _____ 3</p> <p>Poor _____ 4</p> <p>Very poor _____ 5</p>	
Q75	What is your current opinion of psychosocial care at this centre/hospital?	<p>Very good _____ 1</p> <p>Good _____ 2</p> <p>Acceptable _____ 3</p> <p>Poor _____ 4</p> <p>Very poor _____ 5</p> <p>No psychosocial care _____ 9</p>	End of Questionnaire
Q76	Why have you never had an HIV test?	<p>Fear of the result1</p> <p>Fear of the reaction of others2</p> <p>Don't need one because I am not sick3</p> <p>Others (specify)8</p>	
Q77	<p>In your view, what is your current level of risk of being infected by HIV?</p> <p>(INTERVIEWER: List the choices)</p>	<p>Very slight1</p> <p>Rather slight2</p> <p>Intermediate (neither slight nor high)3</p> <p>Rather high4</p> <p>Very high5</p>	

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

Q78	<p>Why do you evaluate your current level of risk that way?</p> <p><i>Many possible answers</i></p>	<p>Many partners 1</p> <p>Many partners of the boyfriend 2</p> <p>Use of the condom 3</p> <p>Others (specify)_____ 8</p>	
Q79	<p>In your opinion, what is your risk of being infected by HIV in the future if you are not currently infected?</p> <p><i>(INTERVIEWER: List the choices)</i></p>	<p>Very slight 1</p> <p>Rather slight..... 2</p> <p>Intermediate (neither slight nor high) 3</p> <p>Rather high..... 4</p> <p>Very high 5</p>	
Q80	<p>Why do you evaluate your future level of risk in that way?</p> <p><i>Many possible answers</i></p>	<p>Many partners 1</p> <p>Many partners of the boyfriend 2</p> <p>Use of the condom 3</p> <p>Others (specify)_____ 8</p>	
Q81	<p>During the last three months, did you go to a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers?</p>	<p>Yes 1</p> <p>No 2</p>	<p>→</p> <p>Go to section 8</p>
Q82	<p>Did the health workers (the persons who work at this clinic) suggest having an HIV test?</p>	<p>Yes 1</p> <p>No 2</p>	

SECTION: MEASURING PSYCHOSOCIAL VARIABLES

Instructions: This section is reserved for HIV-negative people or those unaware of their status because some questions are inappropriate for someone who is HIV positive,.

The questions focus on the intention to undergo HIV testing at a health centre (SA) during the next three months.

The concept of voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) refers to a process agreed to by the woman, which can be initiated by her or proposed by health personnel. It consists of advice, the taking of blood samples, and the delivery and explanation of the results of HIV status to the woman during post-test counselling. Testing carried out in the context of an investigation of disease monitoring, where results are not given to participants, is excluded.

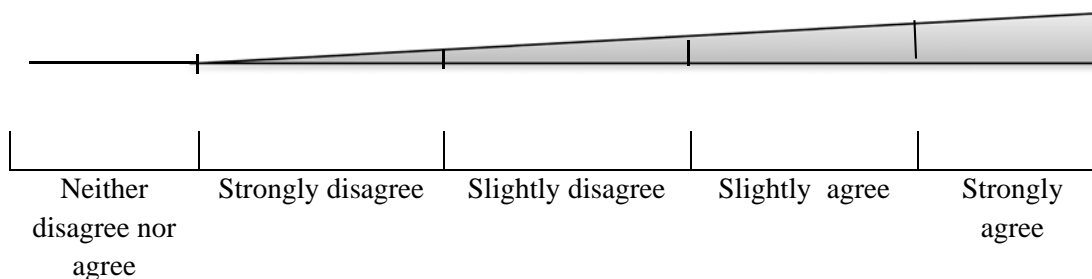
Advise participants to respond to the best of their knowledge, for example by specifying that: "There is no right or wrong answer. The most important thing is to say how the situations described apply to you. So please answer the question by saying what you really think. "

Interviewer: *Explain and present the visual scale to the participant so she can see and or indicate with a cross or a line the responses on the scale for each item.*

INTENTION (INT)

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

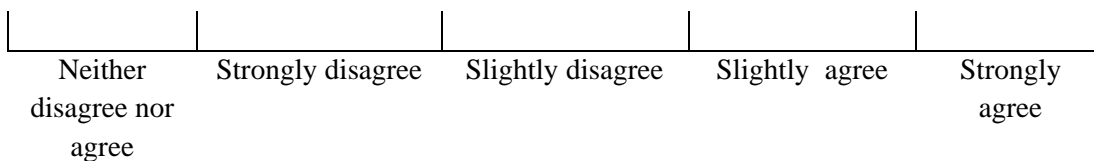
- a) "You intend to be tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months."



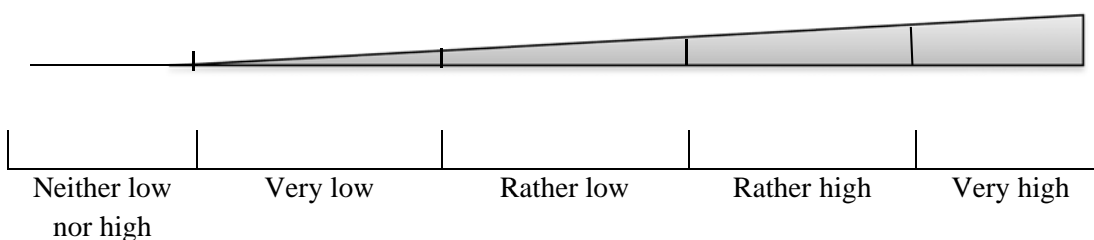
- b) "You're going to be tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months."



SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

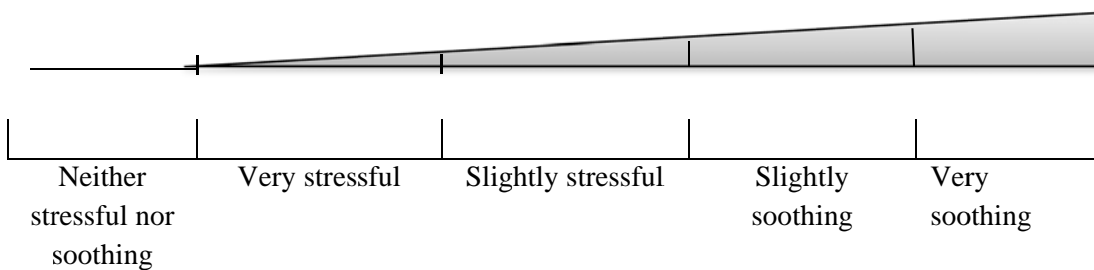


- c) How would you evaluate the chances that you would be tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months?



ATTITUDE (ATT)

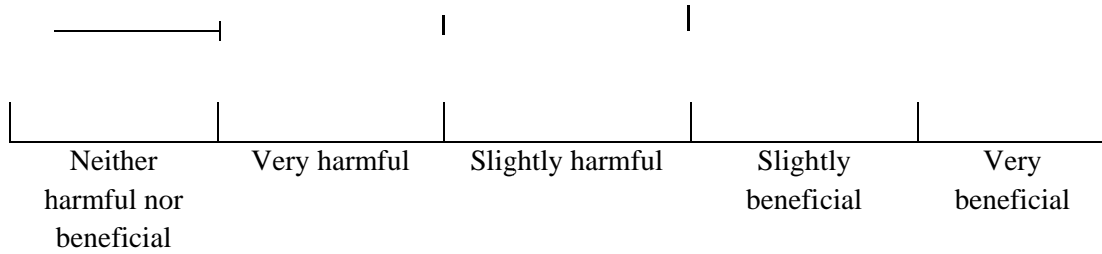
For you to be tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three months would be:



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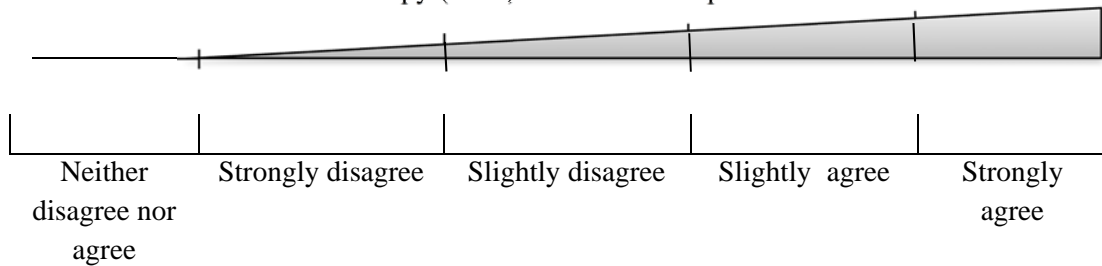
SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT



BEHAVIOURAL BELIEFS (BB)

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

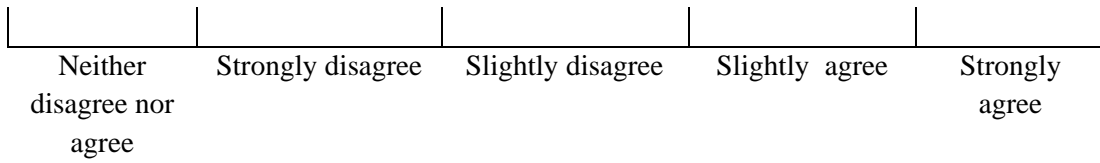
- a) "If you undergo a test for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, this would allow you to have access to care and treatment for Antiretroviral therapy (ART) in the case of a positive result."



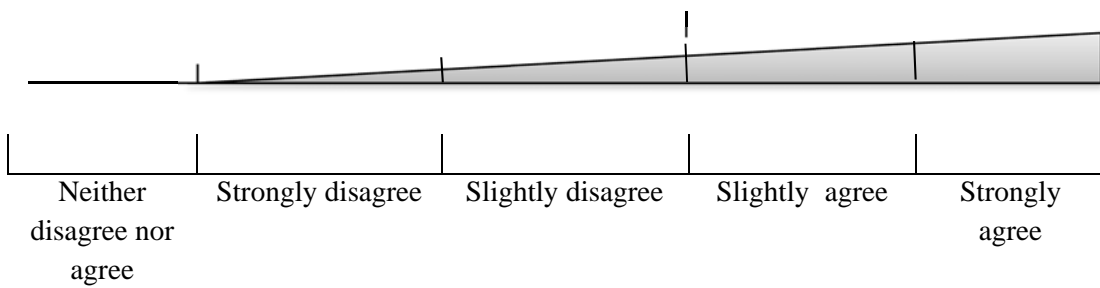
- b) "If you undergo a test for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, this would allow you to be better informed."



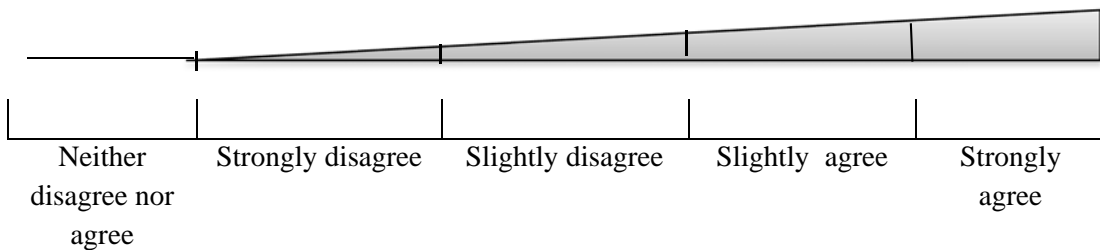
SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT



- c) "If you undergo a test for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, this would allow you to better protect yourself."



- d) "You would feel proud if you were tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months."

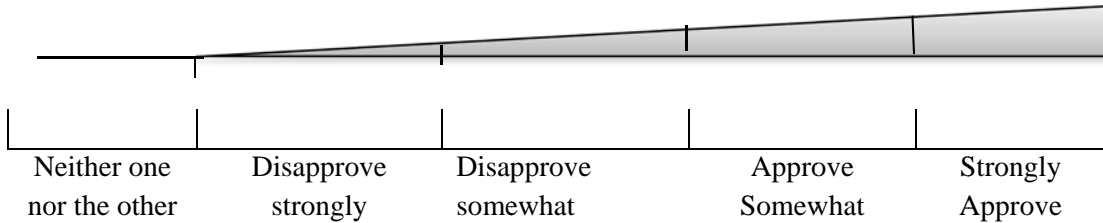


SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

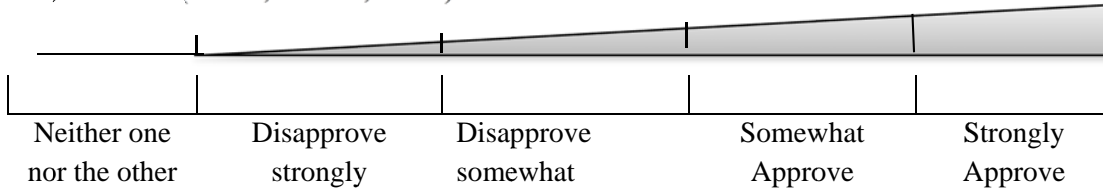
NORMATIVE BELIEFS (NB)

In your opinion, to what extent would the following people or groups of people who are important to you approve or disapprove if you announce that you are undergoing an HIV test at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the three next 3 months?

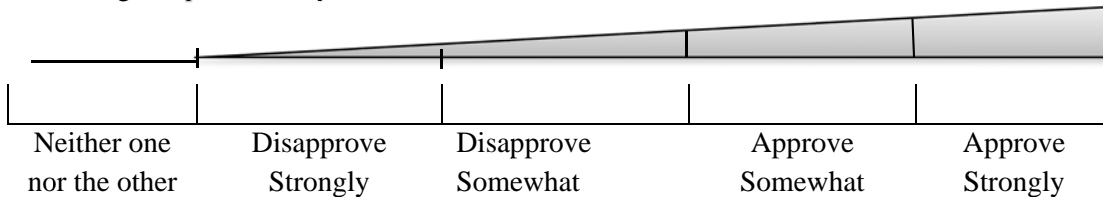
a) Friends/peers (fellow sex workers)



b) Parents (Father, Mother, Child)



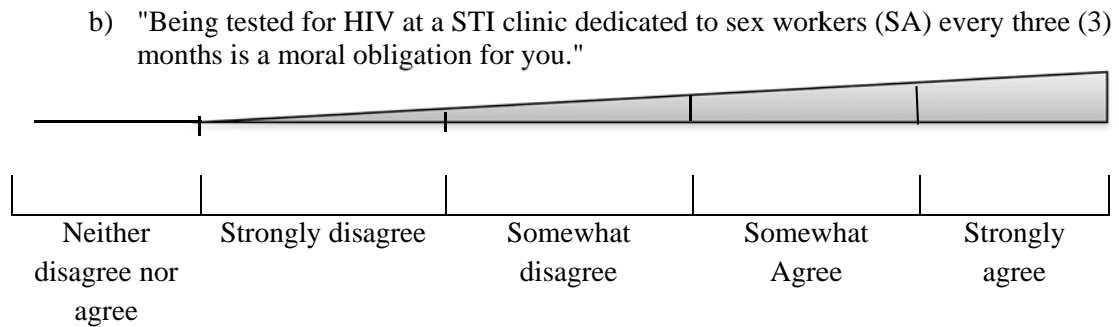
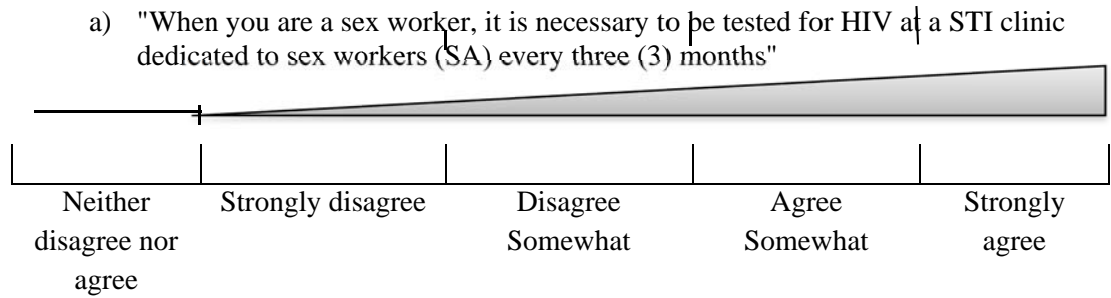
c) Regular partners/boyfriends



MORAL NORMS (MN)

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

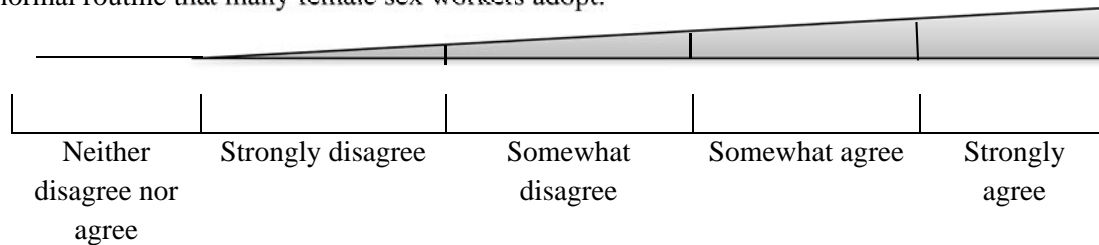
SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT



DESCRIPTIVE NORMS (DN)

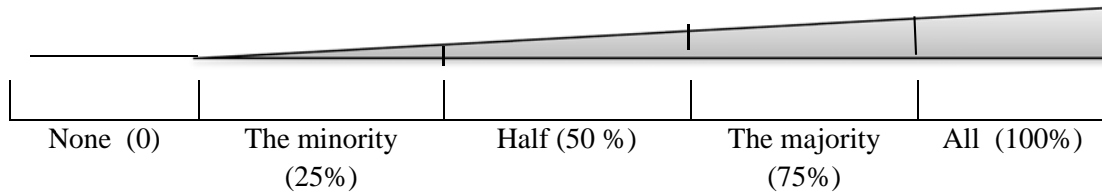
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

"Being tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) every three months is a normal routine that many female sex workers adopt."



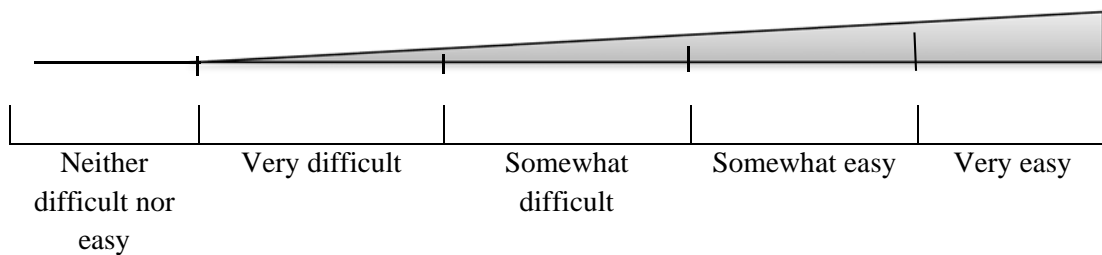
SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

Based on what you know about the practice of your peer FSWs and HIV testing, how many of them are being HIV tested every three months at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) ?



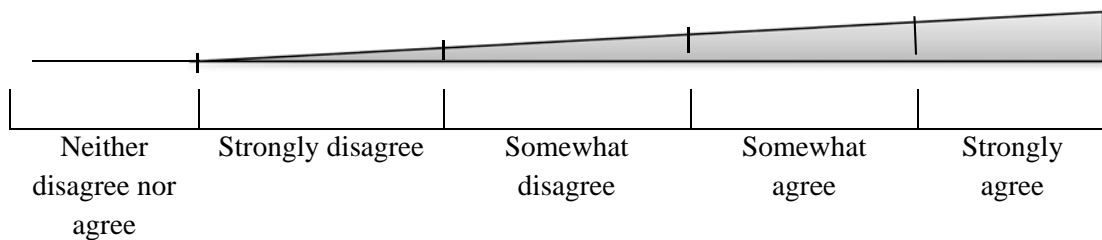
PERCEIVED BEHAVIORAL CONTROL (PCB)

10- For you to be tested for HIV at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three months would be



To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement:

"You feel able to undergo HIV testing at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months."

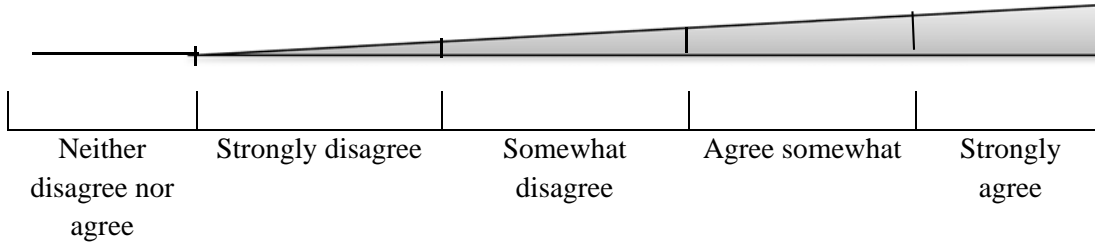


CONTROL BELIEFS (CB)

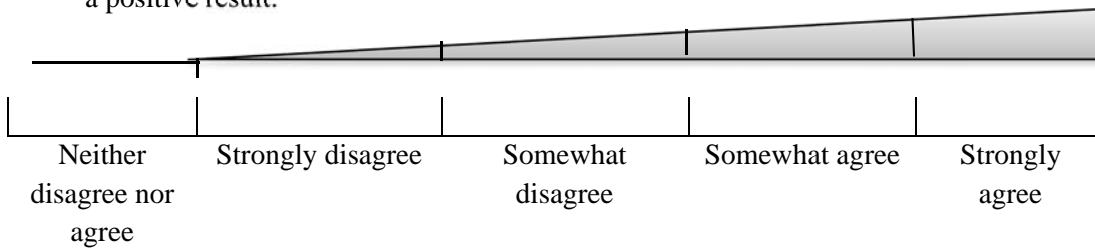
SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

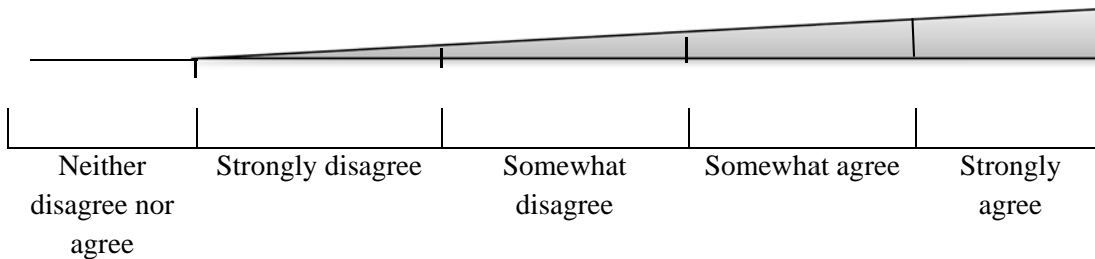
- a) Do you feel able to get an HIV test in a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, even if you are afraid of receiving a positive result?



- b) You feel able to be HIV tested at a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, despite the fear of discrimination and stigmatization in the case of a positive result.

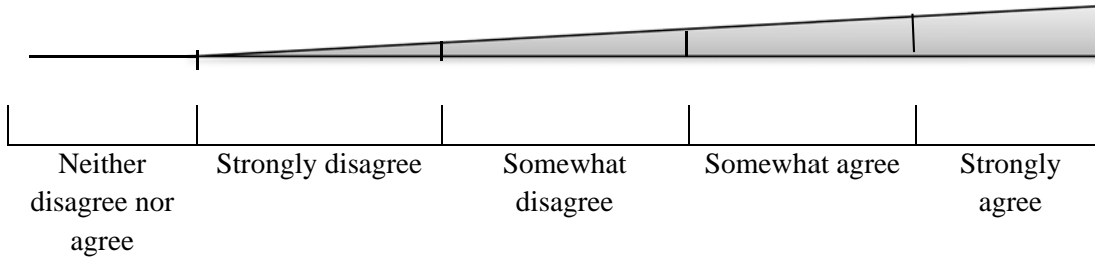


- c) You feel able to be HIV tested in a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three (3) months, even if you do not completely trust that this information will remain confidential/the discretion of the health care provider.

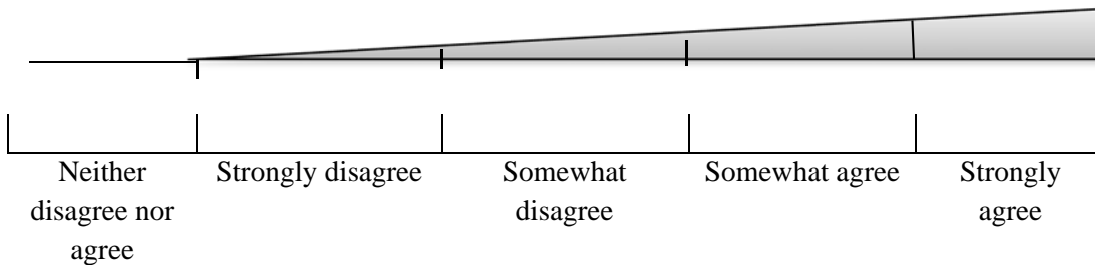


SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

- d) If the HIV test is free, you would undergo the HIV test in a STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) during the next three months.



- e) If you know the STI clinic dedicated to sex workers (SA) where the HIV test is offered, you would undergo an HIV test over the next three months.



This is the end of our questionnaire. Thank you very much for your time in answering these questions.

We appreciate your assistance.