

*Research as advocacy
tool:
making the evidence work for us*

SA AIDS 2009 MSM SATELLITE CONFERENCE

Research and advocacy: Sharing our strengths,
bridging the gap.

Durban, South Africa – 30 & 31 March 2009

What do we have going?

- Needed and innovative research being done across the Southern African region
 - in challenging settings
 - addressing issues affecting a minority seen as “un-African”, “un-Christian”, “unnatural” and “undesirable”
 - and yielding information that sometimes confirm and sometimes surprise.

Some key questions

- Why this research? What is it that we need to know/think we need to know?
- Why now?
- Who exactly is the constituency?
- What are the specific challenges that we will have researching this constituency?
- Who will be asking the questions/gathering the information?
- Who needs this research and what is it that we want them to do with it?

Who needs to listen?

- Government
 - affect law, policy, national programmes
 - health, education, protective services, etc.
- Service providers
 - NGO's, CBO's, FBO's, etc.
 - find allies, build partnerships
- Community/communities being researched
 - affect programming
- Religious, traditional, community leaders and their constituencies
- Media

That is it...

Thank you