Enhancing Couple Connectedness Through Humor, Surprise and the Spirit of Play in Tanzania



Jen Orkis 1 Dec 2015













Background









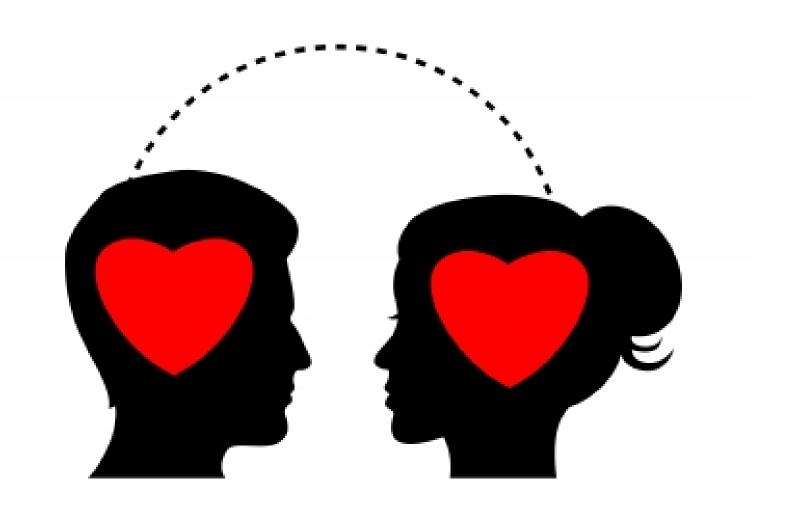








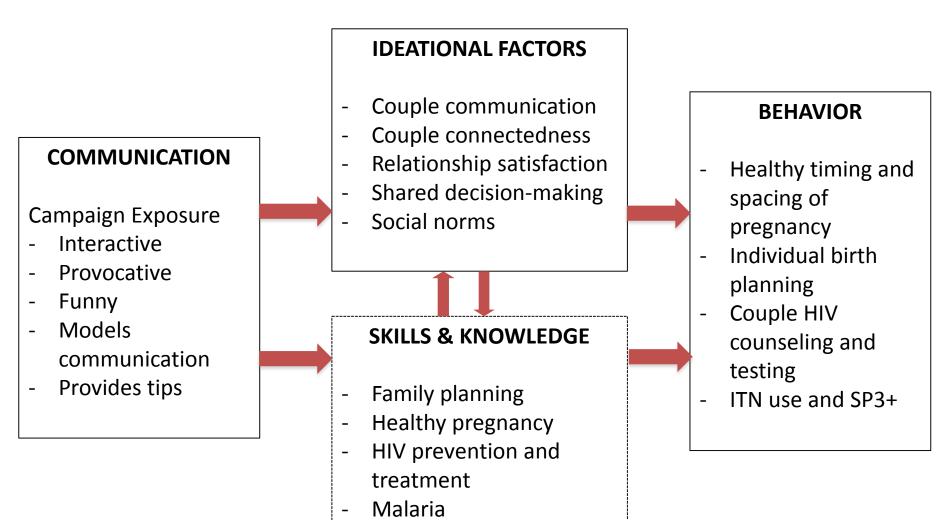
The Common Thread...



Rationale

- Couple communication has been shown to positively influence health behaviors
 - Uptake of FP, HIV counseling and testing, condom use
- Household baseline survey suggests that couple communication is low
 - 39.7% of women and 24.0% of men discussed going for an HIV test with partner
- Formative research found ideas on how to improve relationship satisfaction were accurate but abstract
 - Open communication, joint decision-making, trust, shared goals

Conceptual Framework



Aiisseee!

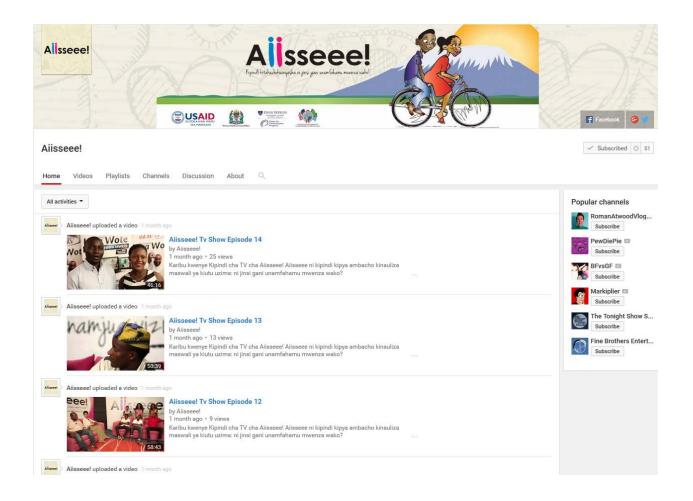
- "Newlyweds"-style radio game show
- Co-hosted by popular male and female radio personalities
- Q&A format with 3 couples
- Interspersed with VOX pops
- Romantic get-away for winning couples
- Pre-recorded and edited
- Aired Sunday evenings





Sample Questions

We don't ask:	But we do ask:	
Are you faithful to your partner?	Would you let your partner read your text messages right now?	
Do you hide money from your partner?	Can you guess how much money your partner has with him right now?	
Do you give positive encouragement to your partner?	What was the last compliment your partner gave you?	
Did you make an individual birth plan?	What was the name of the service provider that delivered your first child?	



Aiisseee! On YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/user/Aiisseee

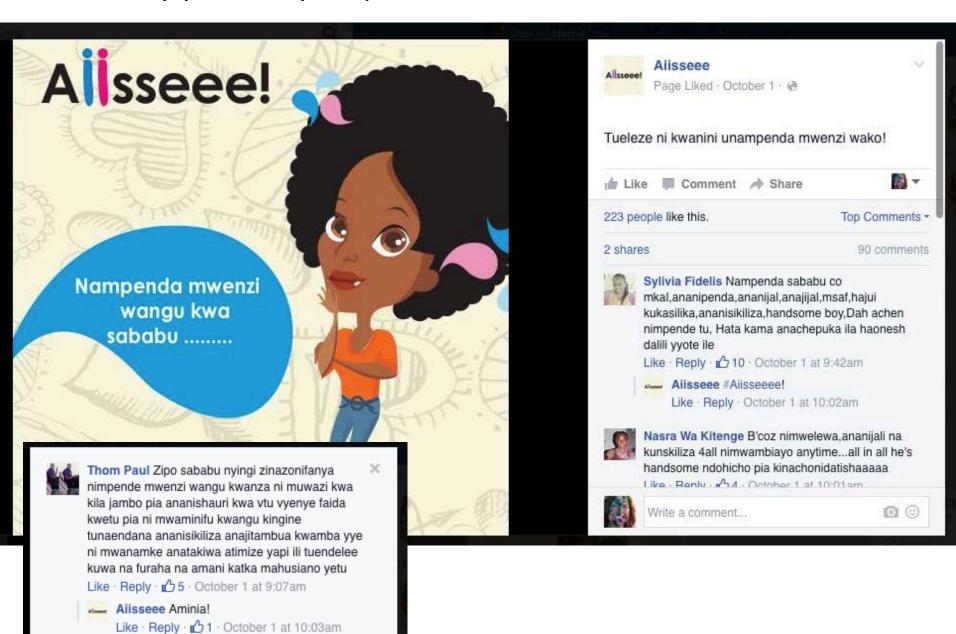


What do you think is the secret to success to have established lasting relationships?



View previous replies

Tell us why you love your partner!









How'd we do?

FGDs Program review Omnibus survey Couple Connectedness Scale Social Media Metrics **Project Midline Survey**

Project Midline Survey

- Nationally representative, household-based, cross-sectional project midline survey fielded in April 2014
- 4,000 respondents aged 15-49 years, randomly selected from urban/peri-urban and rural areas (2,060 males and 1,940 females)
- Multivariate and propensity score analyses

Results

Three months after *Aiisseee!* launched, 19.1% of men and 10.3% of women had been exposed to the campaign.

Exposure was significantly associated with improved:

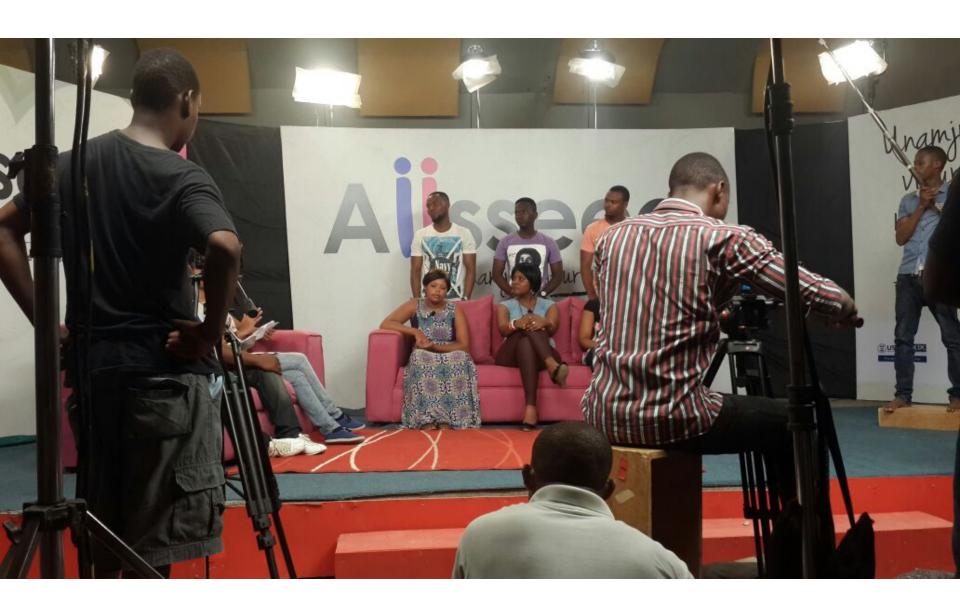
Outcome	Multivariate	Propensity Scoring
HIV prevention knowledge		✓
Sexual protection self-efficacy	✓	
Sexual risk communication	✓	
Discussing HIV testing with partner		✓
HIV testing	✓	✓
Condom use at last sex with primary partner	✓	✓

Results

- Those exposed were:
 - 9.2% more likely to discuss HIV testing with their partners (p=0.002)
 - 4.9% more likely to have ever been tested for HIV (p=0.005)
 - 8.1% more likely to use a condom at last sex with their primary partner (p<0.001)







Lessons Learned

- Creating and balancing health and entertainment content
- Recording in batches allowed for continual improvements
- Need to develop and validate Tanzanian couple communication connectedness scales
- Prize considerations
- Evidence-based/evidence-building

Asanteni!



https://www.k4health.org/toolkits/tanzania-capacity-and-communication-project-toolkit/aiisseee-couple-communication-campaign