

Addressing Disparities in Worldwide Infection Rates and Prevalence

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Abstract:

According to Global Health Magazine, an estimated 4 million people are infected with HIV annually, In addition, 2 million people die from tuberculosis and another 1 million die from malaria per year. The majority of people who die or are afflicted by an infectious disease reside in a lesser developed country. Yet even with this disparaging report the chasm between those infected in developing countries and lesser developed countries is widening . Three plausible explanations for this disparity are socioeconomic status (poverty), gender and drug resistance. In this project, students enrolled in the 2010-2011 school year at Coconut Creek High School , a low income school, will examine each of these propositions and formulate solutions as to bridge the widening gap

Rational:

Coconut Creek is a Title I School, 95% of the students receive free and reduced lunch, because these students are from low income homes and considering the link between poverty and infection rate, it is imperative that these students be made aware of the disparities in infectious diseases that exist at a global level as well as locally.

Description of teaching unit.:

1. Students will be researching major infectious diseases, and its impact and prevalence on youths worldwide.
2. Students will be assessed on accuracy of research by powerpoint presentation
3. Students will plot a world map, highlighting locations of disease prevalence and drawing conclusions based on this map.
4. Students will share/teach research with school's peer counseling class, brainstorm ways on how to bridge the gap in Broward County.
5. Students will participate in an ELISA test for HIV

Literature cited:

Dr M. Salemi " HIV Evolution"
Dr. Robert Lawrence " Adolescent HIV/AIDS in Florida.