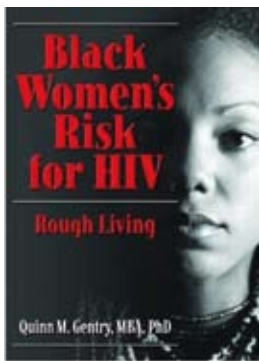


Book Review



Black Women's Risk for HIV - Rough Living

QUINN M. GENTRY. 268 pp. Price: US\$ 89.95 Publisher: The Haworth Press, Inc. Date of Publication: 2007. Place of Publication: New York, USA. ISBN: 978-0-7890-3170-9.

This is an ethnographic study of high risk black women for drug abuse and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The author chose an inner city setting to apply an intervention program to help black women who suffer from HIV and drug usage living in special risk factors. Recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2005) data showed that HIV/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is now the leading cause of death among younger African Americans, who are between the ages of 24 and 35, and at higher risk for heterosexual HIV transmission. The aim of this study was to gain an understanding of how poor African – American women who smoke crack cocaine reduce their risk for HIV infection.

The book is divided into 9 chapters starting with definition of the Rough as a high risk inner city for drug abuse and HIV / AIDS infection. The second chapter addressed the differences between street women and house women in terms of risk for HIV and drug abuse and in services provided for the 2 groups. Chapter 3 explored women's past and present relationships with one or both of their biological parents, and how presence of family support help the women to improve their lives. Chapter 4 examined 5 stages of intimate partner relationships identified by the women. Chapter 5 examined the women's diverse attempts to fulfill the mothering role despite economic deprivation and addiction, and the role of mothering as one that impact a woman's ability and willingness to change her high risk behavior. Chapter 6 highlighted the ways in which drug using women, build on their strengths and skills to make

money in ways that lower their risk for HIV infection. Chapter 7 explored the possible roles, and activities for churches located in inner-city communities where high-risk women live, and engage in high-risk behavior. In chapter, 8 the author explained different ways of reducing risk-factors in black women in the inner city. Chapter 9 discussed black feminist theory as way of changing practice and behavior, and principles to guide the next generation of HIV prevention initiatives as gender, and culturally appropriate high- risk women.

This is an excellent ethnographic study of high-risk black women which were selected from high-risk area to analyze women's risk reduction outcomes. The author believes that by changing individual high-risk women's behavior, we can change the structure of the Rough. In this book, a real story of black women with HIV and drug abuses, who suffer in their living were shown. The author gave ways to improve outcomes of this high-risk group such as financial stability and family support. The urgency among HIV prevention researchers plans and implement, family focused HIV prevention interventions that are cost-effective for families with limited resources. This is a concise picture of how inner city high-risk minority people live with limited resources for living, prevent HIV infection, and drug abuse. She gave informative stories on high-risk black women with their suffering and difficulties. This book gave excellent information which a helpful tool for health professionals who take care of HIV patients, especially isolated minority high-risk group population, also, helps patients to change their behavior to reduce HIV and drug abuse.

This book is recommended for HIV advocates, who can fight for patient's rights, educate population, change behaviors, and reduce risk the factors of HIV.

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