

KIDS • SPORT • LIFE • FUTURE

**Crime Prevention & Community Safety Grant 2010
Attorney-General's Department
Program Summary**

April 2011

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In February 2010 the Attorney General's Department awarded the Sammy D Foundation with the Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grant. The grant was provided to the Sammy D Foundation for the purpose of conducting interactive and empowering harm prevention presentations to young people in schools and community groups across South Australia. The presentations main focus was using the incident that took the life of Sam Davis as a real example to raise awareness of the impact of risky behaviours, poor choices and situations which are precursors to violence including parties.

As a result of awarding the Sammy D Foundation with the grant, the Attorney General's Department has ensured that over 2000, mostly, young people received the harm prevention presentations, which have provided evidence based results for assisting with crime prevention and community safety across South Australia. Detailed within this project report you will firstly find the Executive Summary detailing an overall briefing of the presentations. Following this you will find an examination of the Objectives and Outcomes in accordance with the Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grant. Lastly you will find a full Data Analysis of the presentations, including participant quantitative and qualitative information, as well as participant follow up information and teacher feedback.

At the end of the document detailed results from the participant surveys for all presentations can be found. The results are presented in both table and graph format. The results can be easily compared in relation to location and type of venue as well as group size.

CHAPTER TWO EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In summary the Sammy D Foundation delivered presentations to over 2000 participants, consisting of both males and females, aged predominantly between 12 and 19. Some older people attended community presentations. These participants were reached via 36 * presentations delivered across South Australia, which included 19 Schools, 12 FLO Programs, 3 Juvenile Justice Organisation and 1 Junior Football Club. A further 6 Community Presentations were undertaken. No survey data was recorded for these groups with ages ranging from 16 – 60 ++.

* 2 Presentations were delivered at Mt Barker, however, survey data was returned as a combined package so is recorded as 1 presentation.

Drawing from the participant quantitative data results, prior to taking part in the presentations just over 70% identified that they had previously used physical violence toward someone else. An alarming 62% did not realise the serious impact of using this physical violence. Going on from this an impressive 95% identified following the presentation that they would now consider the impacts of using physical violence, including the risk of causing death and the impacts on family, friends and themselves. One of the most powerful statistics from the State wide intervention was that 94% of participants identified that following taking part in the presentations they would now attempt to stop their friends from using physical violence. Satisfaction with the presentations was also at a high rate; with just over 90% of participants identifying that they enjoyed the presentations and found them interesting, interactive and empowering. Of those that indicated dissatisfaction, almost all stated it was due to the presentations being sad and emotionally challenging, which in essence is testament to how influential and thought provoking the presentations can be to individuals.

The participant qualitative data was also extremely powerful, with large numbers of participants detailing similar themes centring on how much they related to the true story of Sam Davis. Many stated that they recognise similarities with Sam's story and their own lives regarding people they associate with and parties they hold and attend, and that preceding the presentations they will reflect on past risky behaviours, poor choices and situations which have led to violence, and ensure they don't occur in the future.

As widely acknowledged within harm prevention best practice guidelines, steps must be taken to measure post intervention knowledge within

participants. In response to this, follow up data was conducted with participants four - six months after the initial presentations took place. This follow up data has identified that the Attorney Generals Department has successfully made a real impact across South Australia regarding Crime Prevention and Community Safety. The statistics indicate that close to 90% of participants retained harm prevention knowledge and skills. This is vital in terms of demonstrating the value of these presentations.

The teacher quantitative and qualitative data was also extremely positive, with 100% of teachers indicating the overall content and delivery of the presentation being effective, with the language used being relevant to the audience, as well as the Sammy D Foundation's message of harm prevention being made clear. Furthermore, just over 80% indicated that the audience was clearly engaged by the presentations and that they were thought provoking in terms of behaviours, choices and impact. The lesson plans were also well received by teachers with a vast majority indicating they agreed the lesson plans linked in with current curriculum, and that the content further unpacked the themes introduced in the presentations. It was also identified that as a resource the lesson plans were easy to use, and that students engaged when delivered in the classroom. Finally, 85% of teachers found the overall package highly successful.

CHAPTER THREE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

Outcome 1: Increase the awareness of youth crime, its community impact and impact to the offender and their family in order to assist in reducing its incidents.

Objective 1: To access a broad range of young people from diverse backgrounds with the recognition that violent crime has no social or cultural boundaries and raise awareness of its impact.

The Sammy D Foundation addressed outcome and objective one by delivering harm prevention presentations to over 2000 participants, from a range of diverse backgrounds. The State wide presentations were delivered in affluent schools, such as St Paul's, as well as smaller schools in low socio-economic areas, such as Salisbury East. The presentations were delivered to high needs groups, such as Cavan Training Centre for young offenders, as well as positive alternate educational groups, such as the Christies Young Mothers Group. There was no demographic that was given particular attention throughout the delivery of the presentations, but rather a broad goal of addressing the impact of crime in South Australia.

The presentations that were delivered focused on using the incident that took the life of Sam Davis as a real example to raise awareness of the impact of risky behaviours, poor choices and situations which are precursors to violence, including parties. Put simply the presentations allowed participants to reflect, discuss and explore numerous factors associated with reducing incidents of youth crime, including the impact of loss and grief, violence, bullying, precursor behaviour, risky situations, substance abuse, self esteem, self image, mateship, parties, decision making, positive life choices, accountability to community, role modelling and lifestyle choices.

In addition to the above mentioned information, the data from the presentations provides further evidence based results for attainment of outcome and objective one. The data indicates that prior to participants taking part in the presentations 70% identified that they had previously used physical violence toward someone else and 62% identified they did not realise the serious consequences of using physical violence. Following their attendance at presentations 95% of participants identified that they would now consider the impacts of using physical violence, including the risk of causing death and the impacts on family, friends, themselves and the community. Furthermore after taking part in the presentations 94% of participants identified they would now attempt to stop their friends from using physical violence, which is a direct result for reducing incidents of youth crime.

Outcome 2: Reduce the fear of crime in the community by empowering people to support each other in positive choices by promoting mateship. Objective 2: To raise awareness of risky behaviours, precursors and the consequences while providing options to avoid these and make positive life choices.

The Sammy D Foundation addressed outcome and objective two through similar avenues in which number one was attained, which was by delivering harm prevention presentations to over 2000 participants. The presentations that were delivered across the state focused on using the incident that took the life of Sam Davis as a real example to raise awareness of the impact of risky behaviours, poor choices and situations which are precursors to violence, including parties. In the process of exploring the night Sam lost his life, participants were given an example of what can go devastatingly wrong within a circle of friends due to strangers intruding. Through this identification of what went wrong, participants were able to reflect, discuss and explore what they can do to ensure they have the skills necessary to make positive life choices in the future. Put simply the presentations reduce the fear of crime in the community by empowering people to support each other in a positive way, including watching for behavioural cues within your friend circles, knowing the time to step in and help mates with choices, recognition of risky/trigger behaviours and strategies to intervene in peer behaviour.

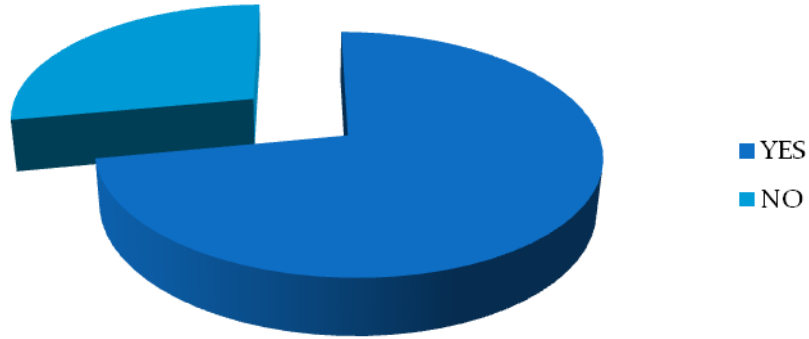
In addition to the above mentioned information, the data from the presentations provides further evidence based results for attainment of outcome and objective two. The data indicates that prior to participants taking part in the presentations 75% identified that they would have attempted to stop a friend from using physical violence. However following their taking part in the presentations 94% of participants identified they would now attempt to stop their friends from using physical violence, which is a direct result for promoting mateship.

Outcome 3: Reduce violent incidents at young people's parties by promoting the setting of safe limits and appropriate guidelines to facilitators of the events.
Objective 3: To educate the community about the risks of young people's parties and provide strategies for holding a safe event.

The Sammy D Foundation addressed outcome and objective three through similar avenues in which numbers one and two were addresses, which was by delivering harm prevention presentations to over 2000 participants. The presentations focused on the incident which took the life of Sam Davis, which occurred whilst he was with his friends at a party. In the process of exploring the night Sam lost his life, participants were given a firsthand real life explanation of the events that took place at the party, including safety strategies the party holders took and where these safety strategies failed. Participants were given the opportunity to reflect, discuss and explore elements of holding a safe party or gathering by identifying limits and rules that are useful, as well as exploration into options for supervising, safe strategies and identifying resources

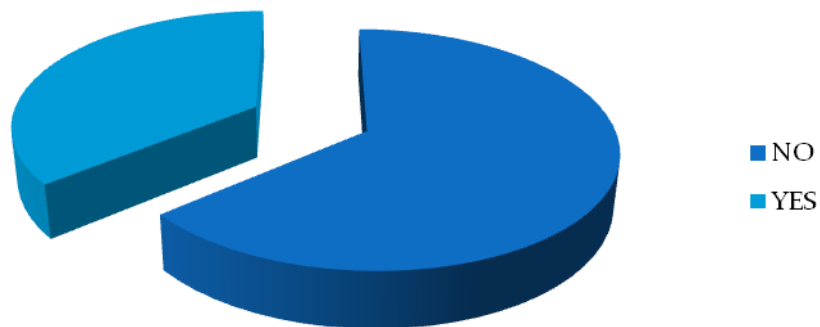
In addition to the above mentioned information, the data from the presentations provides further evidence based results for attainment of outcome and objective three. As previously stated, after taking part in the presentations 94% of participants identified they would now attempt to stop their friends from using physical violence. However more to the point the qualitative aspects of the evaluations identified that many participants recognised similarities with Sam's story and their own lives regarding people they associate with and parties they hold and attend. As a result of this, participants stated that following the presentations they will reflect on past risky behaviours, poor choices and situations which have lead to violence, and ensure they don't occur in the future, which is a direct result for reducing violent incidents at young people's parties.

Prior to presentations used physical violence...



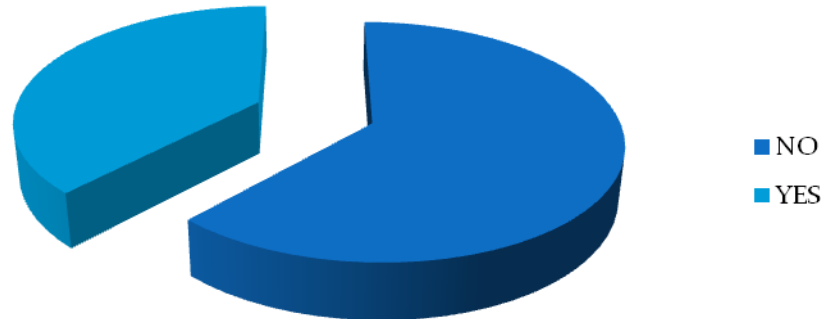
Prior to taking part in the presentations just over 70% identified that they had previously used physical violence toward someone else.

Prior to presentations realised that one punch can kill...



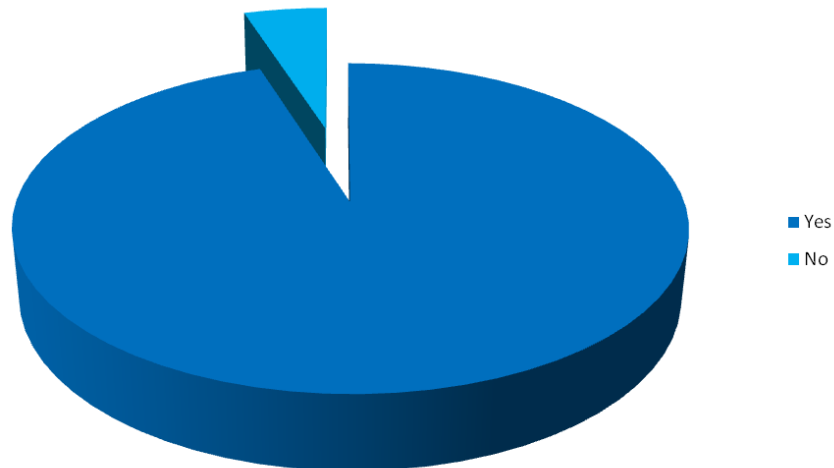
Prior to taking part in the presentations 64% did not realise that one punch can kill.

Prior to presentations realised impact of crime...



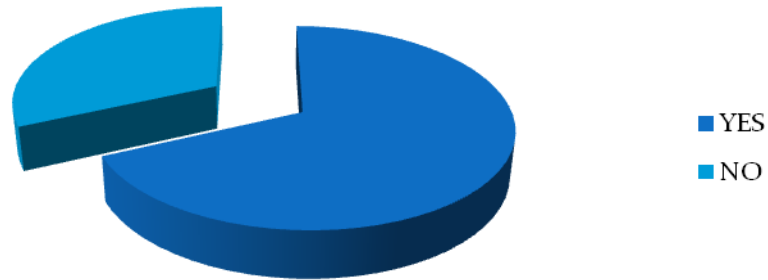
Prior to taking part in the presentations 62% identified they did not realize the serious consequences of using physical violence on the victim's family and friends.

Post presentation consider the impact on Family and Friends



After taking part in the presentations 95% identified they would now consider the impacts of using physical violence on the victim's family and friends.

Prior to presentations would have tried to stop a friend using violence...



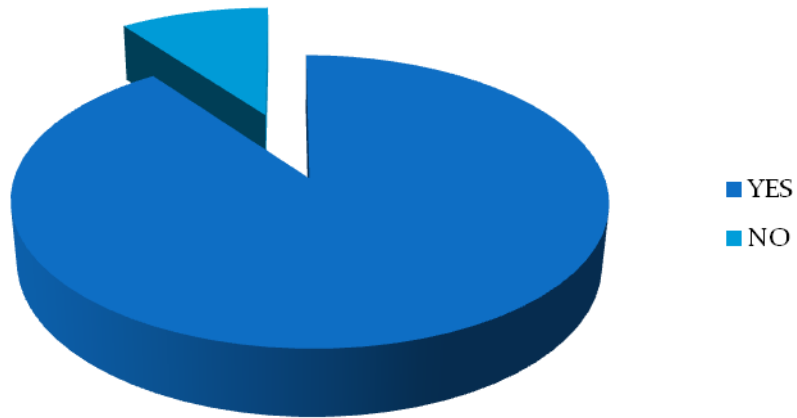
Prior to taking part in the presentations 75% identified that they would have attempted to stop a friend from using physical violence.

Following presentations realised impact of crime...

YES
NO

Following taking part in the presentations 94% identified that they would attempt to stop a friend from using physical violence.

Enjoyed presentation...



90% of participants identified that they enjoyed the presentations.

Learnt that fighting isn't worth it, as people can die easily from one punch:	51.6%
Found the real life story powerful, and thought the presentation was fantastic:	85.2%
Learnt the consequences of violence on victims and the wider community, and that revenge is not the answer:	43.8%
Learnt about the importance of safety at parties and looking after your mates, especially when consuming alcohol:	28.3%
Learnt about the impact of alcohol, adrenalin and injuries on the brain:	11.1%
Thought the bracelet was a useful reminder for crime prevention:	6.9%

Selection of Participant Comments:

"I appreciate that you took your time to tell us about your son and the effects of alcohol."

"Thank you for telling me what the dark side of a party is. I will definitely have a responsible adult at the parties I have in the future."

"Thank you for coming to my school and giving us a presentation to our class, it made me think a lot about what I do and how I should be a lot more careful."

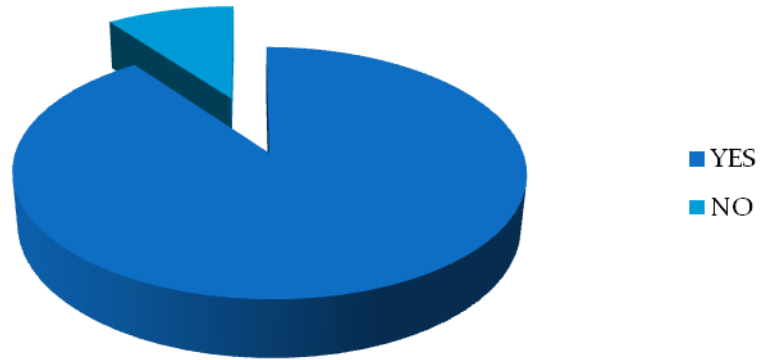
"I got a new perspective on drinking, parties and having fun with mates."

"The Sammy D Foundation presentation impacted me by making me think about things that have gone wrong at parties I have attended and things that I could have done differently."

"I learnt that violence isn't the answer."

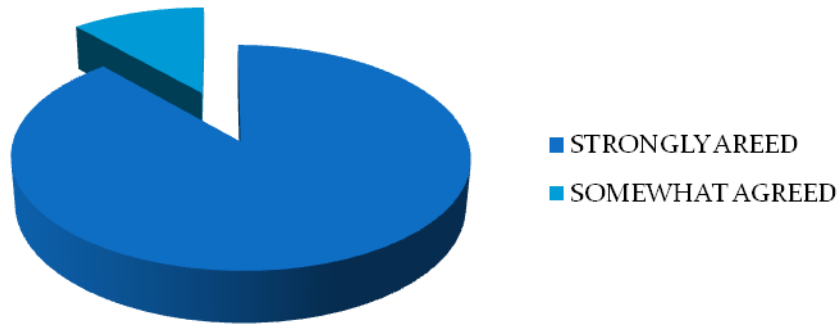
"I think it was really sad and it made me think about the possibilities of how only the lightest of hits can do so much more damage than what you meant."

Retained harm prevention knowledge...



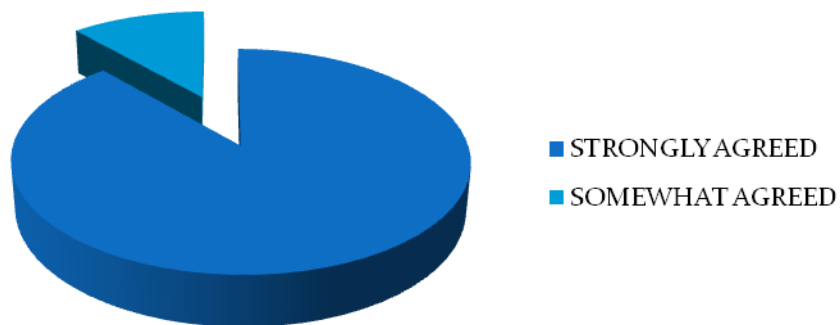
94% of participants had retained harm prevention knowledge and skills five months preceding the initial presentations taking place.

Overall content and delivery was effective...



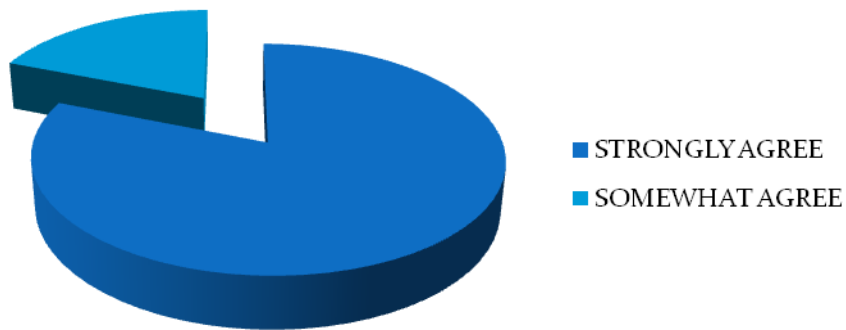
88% of teachers strongly agreed and 12% of teachers somewhat agreed that overall content and delivery of the presentations were effective.

Language used was relevant to the audience...



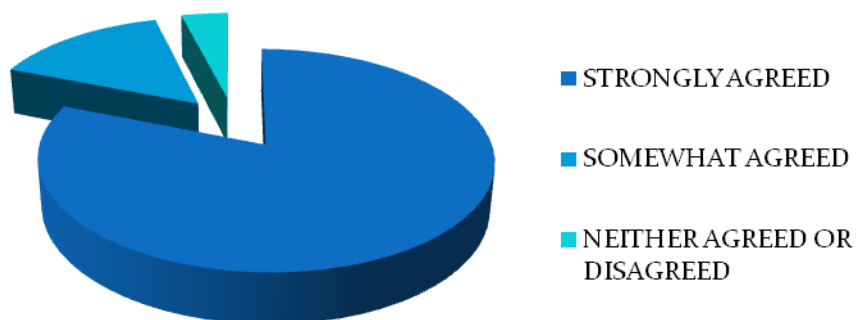
88% of teachers strongly agreed and 12% of teachers somewhat agreed that the language in the presentations was relevant to the audience.

Audience was clearly engaged by the presentation...



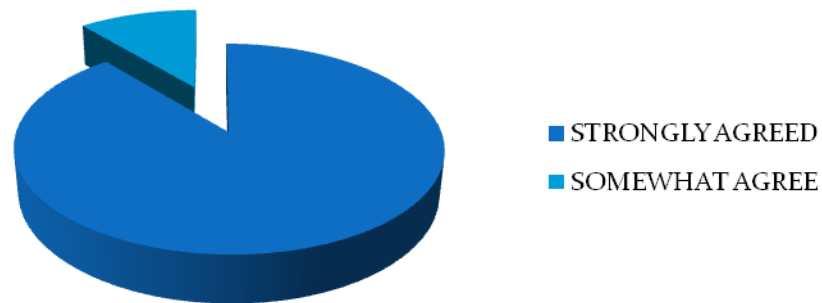
81% of teachers strongly agreed and 19% of teachers somewhat agreed that audience was engaged by the presentation.

Thought provoking in terms of behaviours, choices and impact...



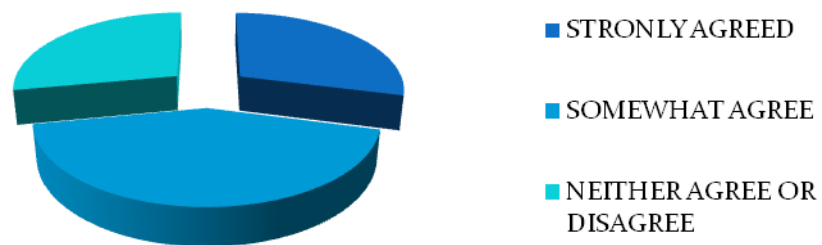
81% of teachers strongly agreed and 15% of teachers somewhat agreed that the presentations were thought provoking in terms of behaviors, choices and impact.

Sammy D Foundation's message of harm prevention was made clear...

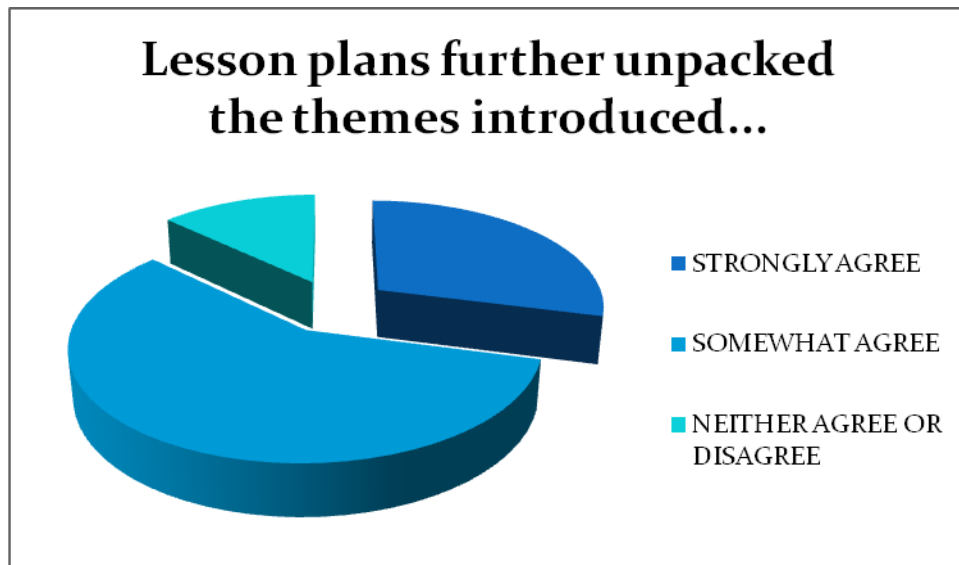


89% of teachers strongly agreed and 11% of teachers somewhat agreed that the Sammy D Foundation's message of harm prevention was made clear throughout the presentations.

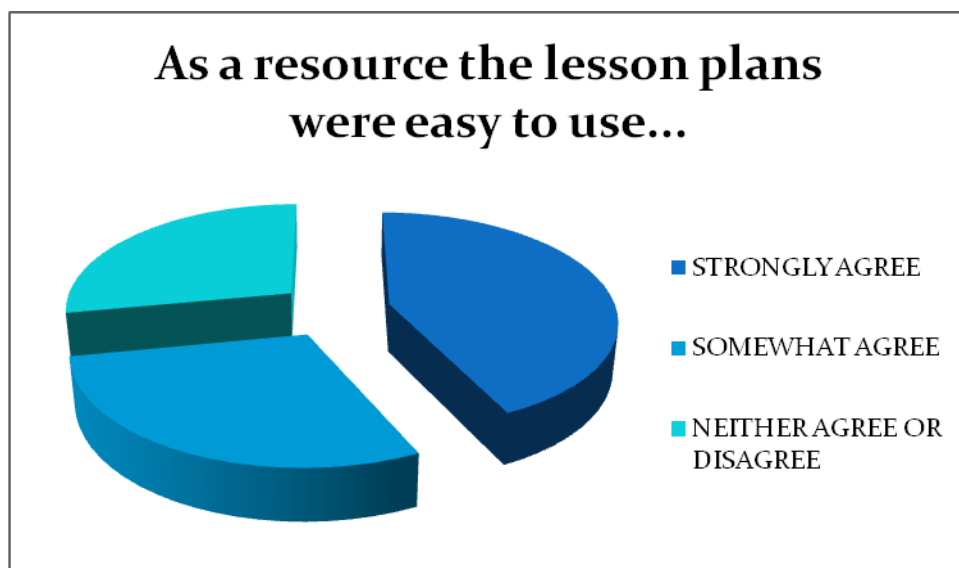
Lesson plans assisted in linking already available teaching resources to current curriculum...



29% of teachers strongly agreed, and 43% of teachers somewhat agreed that the lesson plans assisted in linking already available teaching resources to current curriculum.

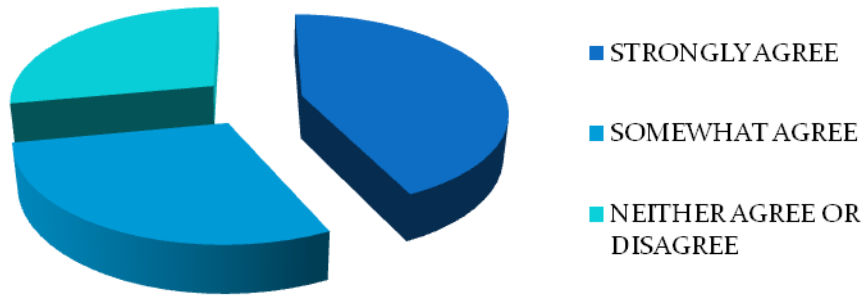


29% of teachers strongly agreed, and 58% of teachers somewhat agreed that the lesson plans further unpacked the themes introduced within the presentations.



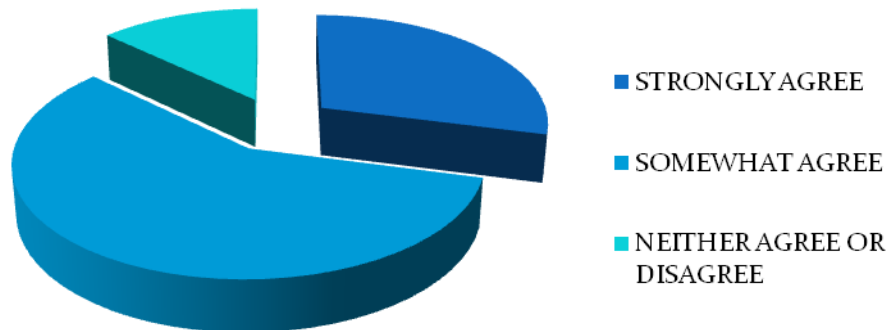
43% of teachers strongly agreed, and 29% of teachers somewhat agreed that the lesson plans were easy to use.

Students engaged with the lesson plans when delivered in the classroom...



43% of teachers strongly agreed, and 29% of teachers somewhat agreed that students engaged with the lesson plans when delivered in the classroom.

Rate of overall package...



29% of teachers strongly agreed, and 58% somewhat agreed that the overall package of the presentations were successful.

Selection of Participant Comments:

"The presentation impacted on the young persons, and would give them some visual thoughts of how a situation could affect so many people."

"This sort of presentation is definitely relevant to a lot of our young people today."

"Everyone was engaged in the presenters from start to finish and I believe the story affected the way we all behave when drinking."

"I have no doubt there was not a person in the room that has not been involved in a situation very similar that they will draw from and reflect upon."

"The clear message was delivered in a youth friendly manner, showing an understanding of the audience and where they are coming from as a generation and as individuals in society."

"The presentation is relevant to all teenagers. It was moving, heartfelt and yet enthusiastic and with a sense of humour."

"The presentation was well received by the students."

"Wonderful, moving presentation. Felt emotional through delivery and saw students tear up."

"I have never witnessed the silence of an audience like this."

"The presentation was very moving and pertinent to address the big issues relating to this age group."