

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the National HIV Nurses Association (NHIVNA)

## **David Stuart**

Antidote Substance Use Services, London



# 10 year history serving the Substance Use needs of London's LGB&T

(Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) communities

8,000 contacts, 800+ people in a variety of structured treatments each year



### New Drug Trends

10 years ago



**TODAY** 





	2005	2012
Crystal Meth	0%	40%
GHB GBL	3.2%	27%
Mephedrone	0%	18%
LGB&T people poly-using these 3 drugs now account for <b>85%</b> of our presentations (alcohol, marijuana, cocaine the remainder)		
Referrals from GUM clinics, A&E or statutory drug services	8%	63%

# Normalised Drug/Alcohol use on our Bar and Club Scene





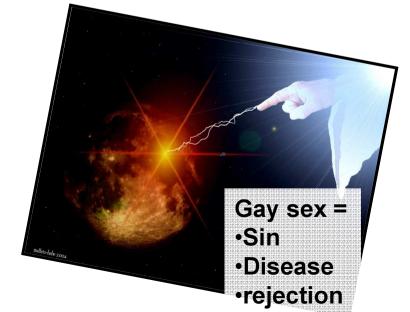
"Abstinent" based models inappropriate for this client group. 6
This is not about scoring on the street corner; online purchasing and "Hooking up".

#### LGBT reasons for drug use









Drugs being used to facilitate sex

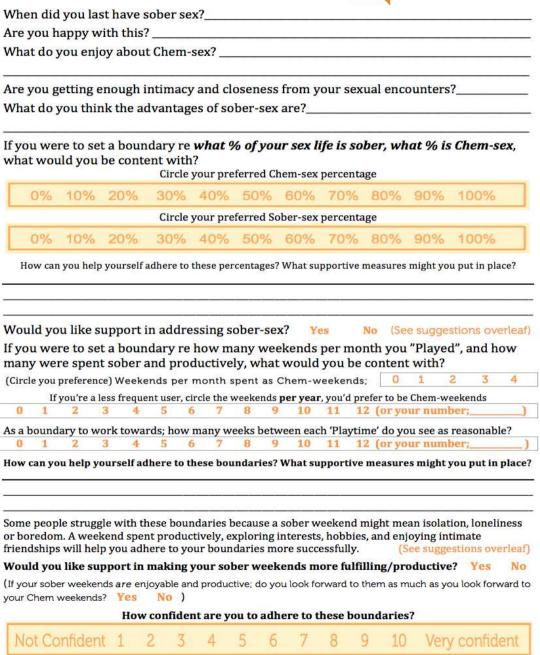
Sober sex
can be
challenging
for this group



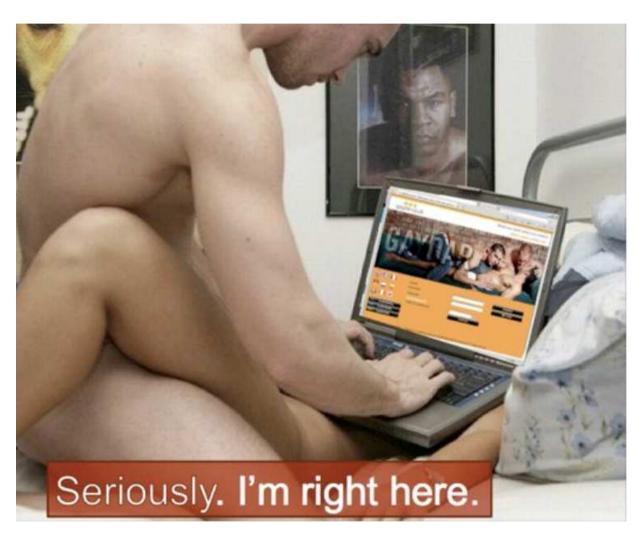
# "HIV prevention" includes sexually active HIV+ people.

- Are you confident disclosing your status?
- Do you feel confident & sexy, or diseased and unclean?
- Are you comfortable discussing HIV with friends/lovers?
- Do you use Bareback sites to avoid the HIV topic?
- Do you want support in writing your online profiles/setting boundaries on line?
- Do you care about your health and others... even when high?
- Condom-less sex may be a choice... but sharing needles?
  - Is compulsive sexual behaviour a result of HIV+ men being out of work, benefit dependent, poorly-esteemed, isolated, in need of affirmation, ill at ease with their status?





## Managing Social Networking





## The popularity of "BareBacking"





A sexual health/drug information service for gay men who use drugs for sex





Tuesdays, 5pm to 7pm, 56 Dean St (3rd Floor) Text 07786 202 243 for an appointment



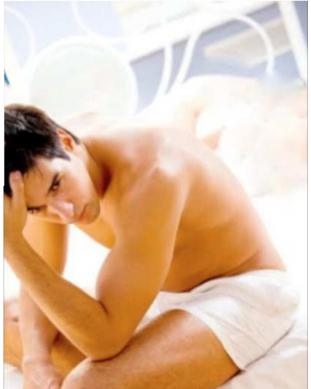


Or



"Equality"..

Does not mean treating people the same.



Less than 2% LGBT people use heroin or crack

GHB/GBL Ignorance

Injecting ignorance

Sexual context ignorance

Unwelcoming waiting rooms

Historical distrust

# ANTIDOTE DATA; Sexual Health Consequences

antidote

#### Of the Crystal Meth, and Mephedrone users at Antidote;

•95% are using to facilitate sex

•80% are injecting

•70% report having shared needles to inject

- Prefer to use "Bareback" sites to find sexual partners
- Report an average of 5 sexual partners per "episode"

#### 75% are HIV positive; of these,

•60% report not taking HIV medicines when on drugs •90% attribute their HIV or Hep C diagnosis to the use of drugs or alcohol

Of the HIV Negative clients, more than half have had one or more courses of PEP in the last year 15



