

Save Someone's Life Your own

by Hannah Barnes

Sexually transmitted diseases are spreading fast. We all know that. We hear this slogan along with countless others on a daily basis. So why aren't we listening? Stop me if I'm wrong but the campaign against STI's has been running for years, I don't think I can even remember a time that their weren't posters around schools, advertisements blaring out of radios and television sets and people telling us to have safe sex. So why do we chose ignorance over the knowledge that could safe our lives?

Everyone 16-19 year old in Britain should have a basic understanding of the risks of unsafe sex and most of us still will have engaged in it at some point. We all know how to protect our selves and we all now we should so why don't we? It seems we spend the majority of our time rebelling but in this case the out come is just harming ourselves. I'm not judging anyone who has sex on a regular basis, a healthy sex life can be a great thing but healthy is the stress point. Not only do you risk infecting yourself with deadly diseases you could risk infected other partners you choose to sleep with for the rest of your life and who wants to be forever remembered as 'That filth that gave me herpes'. There's also so much more to it than reputation and peoples perceptions of you. This is a serious matter and still we manage to ignore the daily reminders. We risk death, infertility and just plain ugly looking privates for what ends up being a drunken fumble or a bit of fun.

From my experiences protecting yourself is completely down to you, you cannot rely on anyone else to, it's your responsibility. Also protection during sex tends to have to be routine you either use it or you don't and if you don't start now you'll probably never give it a second thought until it's too late and your private parts are crusting over (definitely not the latest fashion statement). No matter how many lame excuses you hear, insisting on using protection has to be done; you wouldn't do a bungee jump without the bungee now would you? So treat sex like a life and death situation because it is. Well it's either that or become celibate and what kind of life would that be?