

The impact of HIV/AIDS:
A participatory action research study
to explore what can be done to assist
Thai families when children are orphaned

Juraporn Tangpukdee
 RN, BSc (Nursing), MSc (Paediatric Nursing), Cert. NP (Basic Medical care)

Supervisors:
 Prof Diana Keatinge, Prof Tina Koch, Dr Margaret Harris
 and Dr Kesssarawan Nilvarangkul

School of Nursing and Midwifery, the University of Newcastle

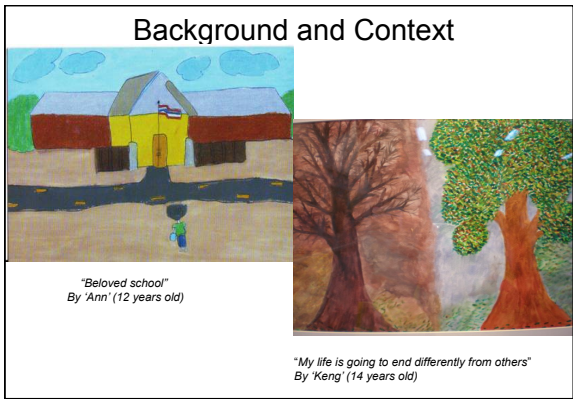
Presentation Overview

1. Research question and aim
2. Background and context
3. Literature review
4. Methodology
5. Preliminary finding
6. Discussion

Research question and aim

Question
 What can be done to assist Thai families whose lives have been affected by HIV and/or AIDS?

Aims
 To identify how families understand and accommodate this situation





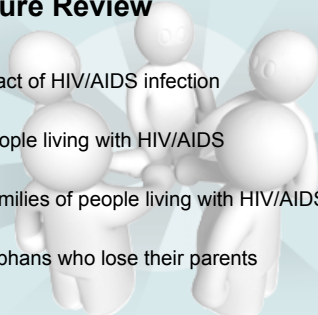
In 2008
33.4 million people living with HIV/AIDS globally
(Adults 31.3 million, Women 15.7 million, Children under 15 years 2.1 million) **(UNAIDS, 2009)**

In 2007
Approximately 610,000 Thais living with HIV
(approximately 600,000 adults and 14,000 children)
(UNAIDS, 2008)

Literature Review

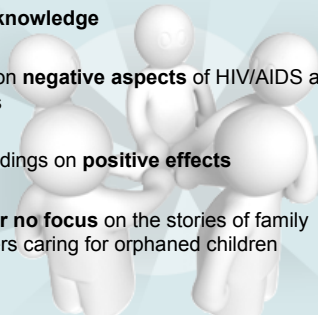
The impact of HIV/AIDS infection

- People living with HIV/AIDS
- Families of people living with HIV/AIDS
- Orphans who lose their parents



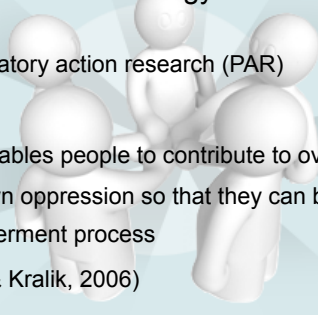
Gaps in knowledge

- Focus on **negative aspects** of HIV/AIDS among families
- **Few** findings on **positive effects**
- **Little or no focus** on the stories of family members caring for orphaned children



Methodology

- Participatory action research (PAR)
- PAR enables people to contribute to overcoming their own oppression so that they can build on empowerment process
(Koch & Kralik, 2006)



Why use PAR:

- People living with HIV/AIDS and their families are a **vulnerable** population
- Provides a way of exploring participant experiences and working with them to address the issues that **they** prioritize
- Enables a planning process to address issues related to the topic in a **sustainable way**

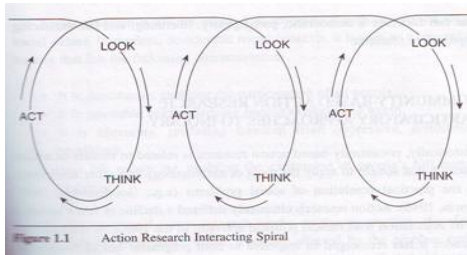


Figure 1.1 Action Research Interacting Spiral

Data Generation
'look, think and act'
(Stringer, 2007)

Ethical considerations

- This research has been approved by :
 - The University of Newcastle Human Research Ethics Committee and
 - The Human Research Ethics Committee of Khon Kaen University
- HIV status disclosure is a sensitive issue in the community - confidentiality is vital

There were four phases in this study:

- One-to-one interviews
- PAR group discussion
- Action process
- Summative and formative evaluation of the PAR process

Preliminary finding on phase one

- Ten participants from five families participated in one to one interview
- Verbatim transcribed in Thai language
- Each interview translated from Thai into English
- An analysis using Look, Think, Act of each interview
- Themes, issues and concerns are identified

- Almost all participants were grandparents who were caring for their grandchild and they were motivated do this by sympathize
- The most general concerns included who would look after their orphans
- The orphans experienced community stigmatized
- These results were introduced in the group discussion among the participants in the second phases. Then plan for action had been released



References

KOCH, T. & KRALIK, D. (2006) *Participatory Action Research in Health Care*, Carlton, Blackwell Publishing Ltd.

Stringer, E. T. (2007). *Action research* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications.

UNAIDS (2007) Global summary of the AIDS epidemic, December retrieved from 2007 http://data.unaids.org/pub/EPISlides/2007/2007_epiupdate_en.pdf 20 June 2010

UNAIDS (2009) AIDS epidemic update : November 2009. retrieved from http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2009/JC1700_Epi_Update_2009_en.pdf 20 June 2010
