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Condoms neither 100pc effective nor the solution

I WISH to comment on John Teo's letter that the solution to avoid baby dumping is the use of contraceptives and not a baby hatch centre (*Forum* June 23).

My view is supported by facts and based on research which, for obvious reasons, I cannot reveal fully. The medical dictionary lumps contraceptive concepts and abortion methods under one category – "contraceptive".

Miller and Keane (1983), *Encyclopaedia and Dictionary of medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health* (3rd Edition), defined 'contraceptive' as "prevention for conception".

Among the contraceptive methods listed are contraceptive pills and Intrauterine Devices (IUDs), both of which are abortion methods. There are two actual contraceptives

– sterilisation (tubal ligation, vasectomy) through operation and prevention method such as condoms, diaphragms, and anti-sperm medicine and cervical caps.

Here are some of the research outcome and statistic:

Cambodia introduced 100pc Condom Programme to prevent AIDS. Condom usage has been increased from 99,000 in 1994 to 16 million in 2001. HIV cases increased from 14 in 1994 to more than 16,000 in 2001.

The more condoms are used in a country, the higher the AIDS disease rate. Example in Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa and Kenya.

A total of 1,609 from 4,666 (34.5pc) of women had gone for abortion in Leeds Marie

Stopes Centre International Abortion Clinic after the use of condom failed (1996); 27pc abortion in St Louis Hospital Paris caused by condom failure.

The use of contraceptive hormone pills leads to several effects such as increase in high blood pressure, stroke, and heart disease, breast cancer and reproductive organ, eyesight problem, baby's deformity, and others;

Contraceptive pills with oestrogen-proestrogen are cancer stimulant (*British Medical Journal*, 2005);

Vasectomy may cause heart disease, diabetes, and gland prostate cancer, increasing the risk towards kidney problem such as stone and others. Meanwhile tubal ligation

may cause bleeding (if serious, operation for abortion may occur) and 'outside womb pregnancy'.

The IUD is actually an abortion method. The IUD may get stuck inside the mother's body (example intestine) and the baby.

With the facts presented, I dare conclude that:

Contraceptive method did not give any guarantees as the users are still exposed to pregnancy and sexual disease as well as other diseases.

Most of the prevention methods and all abortion methods give negative effect in terms of physical health. Women endure most of the effects.

The use of contraceptive encourages sex before marriage and does not help in family planning as said by Dr John Teo. It also increases unplanned pregnancy problem as well as AIDS and HIV rate in the community.

Let me remind that the use of contraceptive is actually the act of killing, which is against all religions.

It not only brings about physical problems but also psychological problem – mentally and emotionally.

For me, unplanned pregnancy and dumping baby could only be solved if we practice religious values seriously. I am impressed with the full support shown by Dr John Teo in the efforts to educate teenagers on sexuality and the risk of sex before marriage.

Lo Nam Yee