

PREVENTION JUSTICE SEMINAR**Intergenerational Communication – Allan James
Prevention Justice Seminar, Fall 2004, New York City**

Allan is executive director of 'Youth Base' – formed to help Department of Health give all pupils HIV/AIDS prevention education in schools. (www.youthbase.org)

Youth Base has 3 main focuses:

- 1) Parents & Adults – speak frankly & rationally about HIV
- 2) Young People - empower to understand the epidemic
- 3) Advocacy – raise consciousness of a community and mobilize for a rational policy.

- Because of social change you can't expect young people to just ABSORB information.

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- Young people have to understand that the HIV/AIDS affects them and they can then figure out strategies for themselves.
- HIGH EXPECTATIONS of young people are vital.

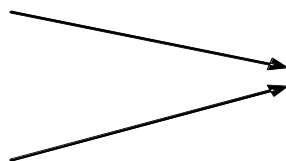


Question from Speaker to participants:

'What roles do you all have in this room?'

Answers from participants:

- Advocate
- Educator
- Activist
- Social Worker
- Learner



All heavily dependant on communication skills

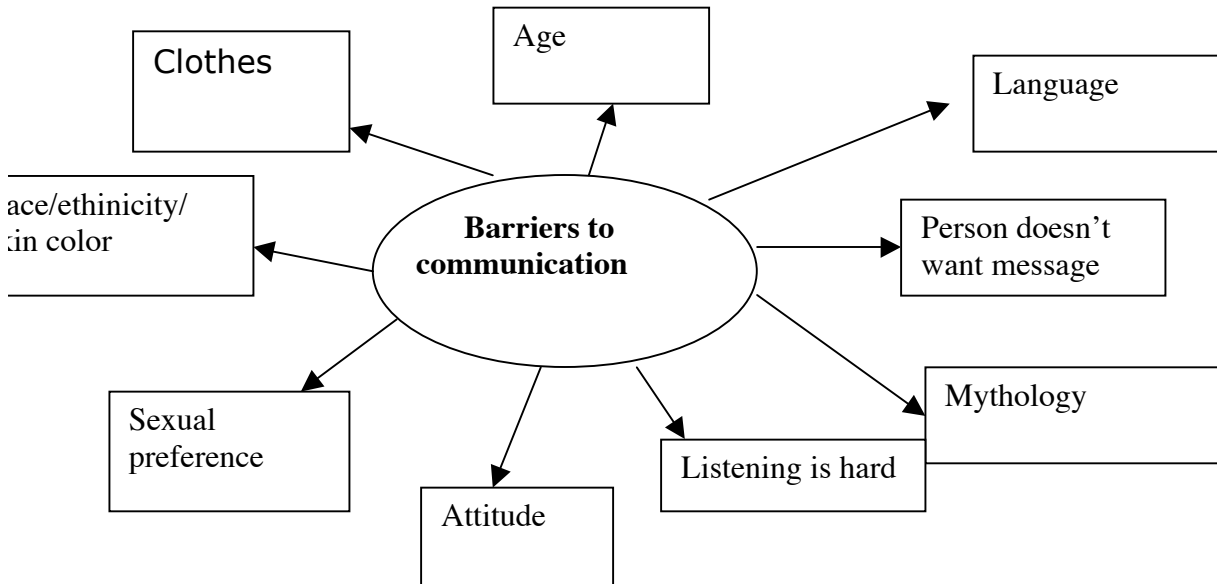
- We generally don't think before we communicate

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- **What are some problems with communicating related to AGE?:**

- Youth have issues with authority
- Older people think they know better and it is difficult to educate them
- Some people feel that they can't talk about private things in public

THERE ARE IMPLIED POWER IMBALANCES IN ALL COMMUNICATION BARRIERS