

“CHEATING” AND “EATING”

22 EXERCISE



OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Analyze the accusations made by the public that they are “eating donor money”
- Develop strategies for dealing with this type of stigma



TIME

2 hours

“That “T” doesn’t have AIDS, instead he’s just making money by cheating people and yet he’s has continued to have a child. It’s a long time he announced that has HIV but he’s not dying... People now say it’s a way of making money.”

*From Focus Group Discussion,
Stigma Research Study*

ACTIVITIES

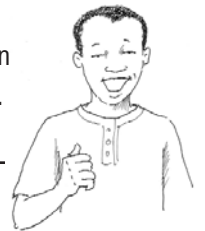
Brainstorming

LISTING ACCUSATIONS

Ask participants to make a list of the accusations they face by the public that they are “eating donor money.”

EXAMPLES

- You guys are just after money.
- You disclosed you are HIV positive just to get lots of benefits.
- You are making a career out of your “liability.”
- You just like to travel to conferences and when you get there you do nothing.
- X has had HIV for a long time. Maybe s/he is not even HIV positive. This is just a good way of making money.



Discuss:

- How do we cope with these judgments?
- Do we need to be cleaner than clean to overcome these attitudes?

Group role-play

WHAT CAN WE DO

Set up a group situation where two people are giving a talk about being positive to an audience. One person starts shouting accusations at them about chewing money. Practice different ways of coping with this. Use stop-start drama to allow different people to try different responses.