



Sex boosting drugs sales on the rise as men tackle low libido

By Dubani-wa-Dubani

Batswana men from all sexually active ages have libido problems. This became clear when The Voice spoke to the Secretary General of the Botswana Dingaka Association and some pharmacists in Gaborone and Mochudi.

“Erectile dysfunction is a common problem among men of all ages. Most of those that come to me are middle-aged men but I do have patients who are as young as 18,” the association’s secretary general Banyatsi Setilo revealed.

Setilo went on to say that most middle-aged men’s concerns are usually genuine while those of younger men are usually due to anxiety, fatigue, stress and alcohol abuse.

“I do a proper diagnosis before treating any of my patients and if I find that the problem has a cause that can be corrected without using medicine I recommend whatever is necessary. In cases of alcohol

abusers I advise that they reduce their drinking because it has been proved that alcohol affects the male reproductive system,” he said.

“In cases where I suspect there might be an underlying medical problem I send my patients to either the hospital or the clinic for tests and probable treatment before I help them. In cases where the doctors at the clinic or hospital cure their problem it is fine with me. It also helps me to give my patients better treatment when they have been to hospital,” Setilo continued.

The traditional medicine practitioner went on to advise those with erection problems to avoid buying medicines from quacks who ply their trade on the streets.

“It is better to go to hospital or consult a traditional healer who is registered with the Dingaka Association. This way one is sure that they are dealing with credible people and in case of complications they know where to go. Buying medicines on the street is dangerous because these people do not know what they are doing. Getting treatment from such people exposes one to the possibility of infertility or even death,” Setilo warned.

Meanwhile, a pharmacist interviewed on the matter in Gaborone also said people of all ages and occupations came to them for over-the-counter prescriptions to treat their flabby libidos.

A pharmacist in Mochudi who did not want to be named for fear of loss of business said: “We even have school boys who buy herbal libido treatments. They usually buy a herbal brand called Silver Bullets. With schoolboys I think it’s about ego and nothing else.”

In older men, said the pharmacist, “the problems are usually genuine. I must point out, however, that most erectile dysfunction cases are due to life style. Things such as heavy drinking, smoking and fatigue from working too hard can cause libido problems.”

He continued: “The best treatment for such cases are non-prescription herbal supplements such as Erect a Fix, Power and Bangalala. These are user friendly and can be used by people with diabetes or high blood pressure because such conditions can cause erectile dysfunction.

“ I would not advise anybody to use prescription drugs such as Viagra unless on doctor’s orders as these have side effects and can cause complications such as heart and kidney failure,” he concluded.

Like Setilo, the pharmacists also sounded a warning note about getting treatment from charlatans on the street as this is likely to lead to complications such as infertility or even death.

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