

Tamils meet with schools to discuss concerns. (1993, June 28).
Toronto Star.

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By Nancy J. White
TORONTO STAR

Condom machines, drugs and rebellion were topics worrying Tamil parents this weekend as they gathered with school officials to discuss the culture clash affecting their children.

"You say you want control in your community, but your children are living in another world," Aldo Morson, principal of Bloor Collegiate, told the 36 parents.

"You have to be reasonable," Morson said. "There must be give and take."

The meeting was held Saturday in a Tamil co-op in Parkdale where flyers denouncing racist attacks were pinned on bulletin boards and fences. Three Tamils have been attacked in Toronto this month. One died of his injuries.

But it was the age-old problems of teenagers and parents that bothered this group of recent immigrants.

"The concerns are universal as people try to adjust to a new life in Canada," said Neil Nakoneczny, secondary school superintendent for west Toronto.

Several parents asked how they could raise children here when they don't obey authority.

"You're asking the same questions people from my community asked when they first got here," said Morson, who was born in Italy.

Many were puzzled by the school's involvement in sex education. One woman, who didn't understand the law, was upset that a police officer had come to her home after her daughter reported being hit.