



2.0 ADIP: Understanding

2.1 Background

The ADIP provides a variety of information products designed to inform Canadian travellers of the extent to which embassy officials can intervene in the event of arrest in a foreign country. *Drugs=Jail*, a pamphlet published by DFAIT, lists the various actions that Canadian embassy officials can undertake on behalf of a Canadian arrested abroad; these include contacting relatives or next of kin; directing the individual to sources of information about local laws; providing a list of local lawyers and doctors; attempting to ensure that the judicial hearing and detention meet local standards, and that equitable treatment, as defined by local laws, is provided.

Embassy officials are unable to intervene in the local justice system; they are unable to pay fines, cash cheques, provide loans, make travel arrangements or secure personal belongings.

2.2 Understanding

The Binarius Research Group tested for Canadian travellers' knowledge and understanding of what Canadian embassy officials can do in the event of an arrest in a foreign country. We also tested for awareness and impact of ADIP information products.

Traveling Canadians were asked what they thought Canadian embassy officials could do if they were arrested on drug-related charges in a foreign country; respondents were provided with three possible answers.

As Figure 1 shows (page 4), more than one-quarter of all Canadian travellers (28%) feel that Canadian embassy officials can do nothing for them; 22% felt they could provide a lawyer; 16% said they could provide advice; 12% said they could contact friends or relatives; and, 17% were unable to answer the question.

Young Canadian travellers views were, for the most part, consistent with these findings; 29% feel that Canadian embassy officials can do nothing for them; 16% feel that embassy officials can arrange for them to be sent back to Canada; 13% said they could contact friends or relatives; and 17% were unable to answer the question.