



HCD
EXCHANGE

WEBINAR SERIES: JUNE



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Let us keep the conversation going



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Topic: Designing and Programming for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) among Teen Boys and Girls



Female genital mutilation, child marriage, and differential access to food, services, and education disproportionately affect girls because of gender-based discrimination. In most sub-Saharan Africa and South Asian countries, adolescent boys and girls are likely to face multiple forms of SGBV including sexual exploitation and abuse, using sexualized language and images, and trafficking.

Today, teens are uniquely affected by SGBV. Their youth and inexperience with relationships increase their risk for physical and sexual intimate partner violence. People who suffer SGBV during adolescence often experience subsequent abuse and long-lasting negative physical and mental health outcomes, and severe sexual reproductive health rights (SRHR) violations, such as an increased risk of unintended pregnancies and induced abortions (often in unsafe conditions) and an increased risk of HIV and other STIs.

One-hundred-and-nineteen people came together via webinar to hear a panel of experts respond to the question on the next slide.



QUESTION OF THE DAY



How might we break the cycle of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) among adolescents?

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Laura Baringer – Project Director, CyberRwanda at YLabs

Shared insights on: *Using participatory design to understand drivers of SGBV among youth; Findings from Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, and India*



A key value-add of HCD is the fact that it really brings out the nuances and individual experiences that are critical to informing sustainable and engaging program design. Our [Men Stand Up Study](#) showed that:

- ❑ The ***construct of being a man is incredibly rigid*** and asks adolescents boys to be in control of most aspects of their lives. One of the consequences of this is that violence is a constant in their lives. For many boys, “being a man” means suppressing emotions, holding the power in relationships, and using violence to demonstrate authority.
- ❑ Thus, to design SGBV prevention interventions, ***it is critical to analyze personal, social, and gender drivers*** of how power gets asserted from early adolescent onward.
- ❑ For a youth-driven HCD design process, we have to ask “***How do we engage men and boys as partners in the design process,***” and seek a more nuanced and empathetic understanding of boys and men’s experiences and pressures. This helps create a more sustainable and engaging program intervention.
- ❑ One key theme that we saw through out the study was that young men often engage in risky, retaliatory, and harmful behavior. When looking at the drivers of such behaviors, we found that it was almost a response to childhood trauma they experienced. ***We need to reject the simplistic archetype that boys and men are inherently aggressive.*** We can use human-centered approaches to unpack societal and gender normative drivers of SGBV.

The social-ecological framework acknowledges that many actors form adolescents' attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors, so interventions should aim to influence change at the various levels of the individual, family, school, health system, and community.

- ❑ While this model appears effective in the long run, ***it takes time to get buy-in from the people*** in adolescents' circle of influence. Cultural background and context also have a significant role in how adolescents respond to issues like SGBV.
- ❑ It is ***critical to recognize that participatory approaches are important*** to start honest conversations about the drivers of SGBV, and to assess participants' various levels of SGBV knowledge.
- ❑ The model has taught us the importance of ***engaging men, especially in examining the harmful notion of masculinity*** and everything related to power and dominance. This was really important for us while working with the different actors in SGBV prevention.
- ❑ For an effective SGBV response, ***it is important to respond quickly and continuously***. The structural barriers and enablers for SGBV need to be assessed continually at all levels, from the familial to the political.





Human-centered design is an essential tool for deciphering the barriers to and enablers of SGBV among adolescents and young people.

- ❑ When we take a design approach, ***we should consider all aspects that can enrich a design challenge*** and strengthen an intervention, a product, or service.
- ❑ We can use ***creative facilitation, participatory research, iterative prototyping, and stakeholder mapping*** to find opportunities for behavior change interventions and structural changes needed to prevent SGBV.
- ❑ As a global community, ***it is imperative that our learning agenda is structured to accommodate diverse perspectives.***
- ❑ Ultimately, ***when designing SGBV interventions, we need to ask the right questions.*** The true indicator of this, especially in sensitive topics, is when insights that are different from our assumptions or available information on the topic emerge.



The most crucial part of any design process is engaging adolescents in the solution. This helps to identify safe and trusted channels for delivery mechanisms for interventions.

- ❑ To break the cycle of SGBV, all stakeholders must **embody a HCD approach**. Our approach must ensure a safe and secure environment.
- ❑ In times of uncertainty and remote interactions, we encourage **snowball recruitment**, in which participants are referred by others, to involve adolescents. This creates a safe space, reassurance, and confidentiality.
- ❑ **Storytelling is a powerful tool for engaging adolescents** on the topic of SGBV. Storytelling, especially through fictional characters, reduces the pressure of response and makes the process discreet by allowing participants to take a third-person or “balcony view.”

MaqC Eric Gitau – HCD Exchange Director

Moderating conversation on how we might break the SGBV cycle among adolescents.



The **three main messages** from the webinar:

- ❑ Now more than ever, preventing SGBV and securing SRHR of adolescents requires ***intricate design approaches*** and nuanced **social ecological programmatic** models. Partnership is key to ***continuously and comprehensively*** overcome SGBG challenges affecting teen boys and girls.
- ❑ Preventing SGBV among teens ***requires programmatic models*** that allow implementers, programmers, youth, and other leaders ***to collaborate*** and overcome power differences in relationships.
- ❑ ***Design facilitates a localized approach to preventing SGBV*** in different contexts for adolescents and responding to its various causes.

Next steps...

Designing and programming for SGBV among teen boys and girls

Next steps...



The goal of these monthly webinars on [#HCD/ASRHR](#) is to spark **partnerships** and **conversations** with the global community to find solutions to some of the most critical health challenges among adolescents.


Send your questions and thoughts to info@hcdexchange.org.

Next steps...




Conversations continue with the HCDEExchange Youth Leadership Hub who hosted a *live Instagram chat* on SGBV among adolescents and youth.



Join us on  @HCDEExchange

as we engage on

“
Breaking the cycle
of SGBV among
adolescents and
youth.”

with 



LIVE

Vicky Aridi

Youth Liason and Advocacy
Officer (Kenya)/ Moderator



LIVE

Badru Jumah

Programme
Associate (Tanzania)



LIVE

Shagun Sharma

Youth Accountability
Advocate (India)



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JUNE 5
2020



5.00 PM - 6.00 PM
(EAST AFRICAN TIME)

Designing and programming for SGBV among teen boys and girls



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