



Gender and Adolescence Research Panorama

Research, Events, Conferences
and Calls for Papers

Quarter 1 2019 Edition



INTRODUCTION

We are delighted to launch the **GAGE Gender and Adolescence Research Panorama** which aims to provide quarterly updates on newly published research products in the field of gender and adolescence, forthcoming events and conferences, as well as calls for papers to contribute to journal special issues and other publications. The **GAGE Research Panorama** focuses on gender and adolescence across a broad set of thematic areas aligned with the GAGE Conceptual Framework, including i) education and learning, ii) age- and gender-based violence, including child marriage and FGM/C, iii) health and nutrition, iv) psychosocial wellbeing, v) adolescent voice and agency and vi) economic empowerment and social protection. We pay particular attention to the experiences and perspectives of vulnerable adolescents, and in this issue there is a strong focus on adolescents in humanitarian settings and adolescents at risk of HIV. We hope you will find this a useful resource and will check in each quarter to get updates on the latest thinking and discussions on gender and adolescence, and what works to enhance their wellbeing and support healthy and empowered transitions into early adulthood.

Happy reading from the GAGE Team!

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Research

Education and learning

Students and brides: a qualitative analysis of the relationship between girls' education and early marriage in Ethiopia and India

This paper explores the association of early marriage with education cessation among girls and their decision-makers who have been exposed to early marriage prevention programmes. Little research has qualitatively assessed how girls build resiliency in affected contexts. This study examines these issues in Oromia, Ethiopia and Jharkhand, India among girls and their decision-makers exposed to early marriage prevention programmes. Qualitative interviews were conducted with girls who received the intervention programmes and subsequently either a) married prior to age 18 or b) cancelled/postponed their proposed early marriage. Girls also selected up to three marital decision-makers for inclusion in the study. Participants (N = 207) were asked about the value and enablers of, and barriers to, girls' education and the interplay of these themes with marriage, as part of a larger in-depth interview on early marriage.

The study found that the girls were able to recognise the benefits of education such as increased self-efficacy and life skills. Girls' desire for education, social support from parents and teachers or after marriage from in-laws and husbands were all key factors in supporting school retention. Yet, post-marriage education was viewed as extremely difficult. Additional noted barriers to education included, social norms against girls' education and for early marriage, financial barriers and poor value of education. Nonetheless, some girls exhibit psychological resilience to these factors, with support from parents and teachers, and are able to stay in school and delay marriage. However, less academic girls and those who do marry early are less supported by family to remain in school. The paper highlights the need for programmatic efforts to include educational support for married and childbearing girls.

Download: [Raj, A., Salazar, M., Jackson, E., Wyss, N., McClendon, K., Khanna, A., Belayneh, Y. and McDougal, L. \(2019\). Students and brides: a qualitative analysis of the relationship between girls' education and early marriage in Ethiopia and India. BMC Public Health, 19\(1\). https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-018-6340-6](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-018-6340-6) [Open Access](#)

The importance of self-efficacy and educational aspirations for academic achievement in resource-limited countries: evidence from Ghana

Academic self-efficacy and educational aspirations are important factors in determining academic performance. In Ghana, data from 4282 adolescents was used to understand the complex relationship between academic self-efficacy, educational aspiration and academic performance. Using path analysis, to test the causal pathways, and path invariance analysis to assess the moderation role of gender, the study found that an increase in academic self-efficacy indirectly accounts for improvement in academic performance through the mediational role of educational aspirations. These effects were stronger for boys than for girls. These findings suggest in resource-limited countries where the financial burden of schooling tends to be a demotivating factor, interventions that target adolescents' academic self-efficacy may be an effective means to boost educational aspirations and academic performance.

Download: [Ansong, D., Eisensmith, S., Okumu, M. and Chowa, G. \(2019\). The importance of self-efficacy and educational aspirations for academic achievement in resource-limited countries: Evidence from Ghana. Journal of Adolescence, 70, pp.13-23. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2018.11.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2018.11.003) [Open Access](#)

Incentivizing school attendance in the presence of parent-child information friction

Education policies typically ignore that parents and children may not have the same objectives regarding the child's school attendance, and that parents may not perfectly observe whether the child attends school. Cash transfers conditional on an attendance target may therefore increase school attendance in part due to the information they transmit to parents about their child's attendance. This study looked at this information effect through an "information only" treatment and

found that it accounts for as much as 75 percent of the effect on attendance of a conditional transfer program incentivising parents. It found that directly incentivizing children to attain an attendance target is at least as effective as incentivising parents – and importantly, not because parents were able to appropriate conditional transfers made to children. This study found that gains in attendance achieved by incentivising parents financially do not translate into gains in test scores. Both the information only treatment and a conditional transfers program directly incentivising children to attend improve math test scores by 8.5 to 9.4% of the control group's mean. These results are consistent with parents being more likely to take actions that have a positive effect on attendance but a negative effect on learning when attendance, but not learning, is rewarded.

Download: [De Walque, D & Valente, C. Incentivising School Attendance in the Presence of Parent-Child Information Friction \(paper from the Center for the Study of African Economies 2019 Conference\).](#)

Pupil absenteeism, measurement, and menstruation: evidence from Kenya

Impact evaluations focused on school absenteeism commonly use school records of untested quality or expensive spot-check data. This study uses a large dataset on more than 30,000 unannounced random spot-checks for 6,000 female and male students across 30 schools in Western Kenya, with equivalent school record entries. The study confirms that while absenteeism is common overall, pubescent girls miss more schooldays than boys because of high incidence of school transfers. Second, it tested the quality of school records using Cohen's kappa-coefficient, revealing non-random inconsistencies across the two data sets. Lastly, it conducted a three-arm cluster randomized control trial that provided sanitary products to schoolgirls to reduce absenteeism. Using the school record data, the study draws the erroneous conclusions regarding the program treatment effects. Using the spot-check data, it confirms that providing sanitary pads reduces absenteeism by 5.4 percentage points.

Download: [Benshaul-Tolonen, A., Zulaika, G., Nyothach, E., Oduor, C., Mason, L., Obor, D, Alexander, K., Laserson, K & Phillips-Howard, P. \(2019\). Pupil Absenteeism, Measurement, and Menstruation: Evidence from Kenya \(paper from the Center for the Study of African Economies 2019 Conference\).](#)

Bodily integrity, autonomy and freedom from violence

Preventing violence against refugee adolescent girls: findings from a cluster randomised controlled trial in Ethiopia

Interpersonal violence is a critical public health concern in humanitarian contexts, but evidence of effective violence prevention programmes targeting adolescent girls is lacking. This two-arm cluster randomised controlled trial of Sudanese and South Sudanese girls aged 13-19 (n=919) in a refugee setting in Ethiopia investigated the success of violence prevention programmes at reducing adolescent girls' experiences of interpersonal violence. The intervention clusters received 30 life skills sessions delivered in safe spaces with an additional 8 sessions for caregivers. At a 12 month follow up, the intervention was not significantly associated with a reduction in exposure to sexual violence, or other forms of violence, transactional sex or feelings of safety. However, those in the intervention group had improved attitudes around rites of passage, identified social supports and had greater odds of believing a girl should get married and have their first child after the age of 18. Further programme adaptations are therefore needed to prevent violence towards adolescents in humanitarian contexts.

Download: [Stark, L., Asghar, K., Seff, I., Yu, G., Tesfay Gessesse, T., Ward, L., Assazene Baysa, A., Neiman, A. and Falb, K. \(2018\). Preventing violence against refugee adolescent girls: findings from a cluster randomised controlled trial in Ethiopia. *BMJ Global Health*, 3\(5\), p.e000825. doi:10.1136/ bmjgh-2018-000825 \[Open Access\]\(#\)](#)

Adolescent exposure to and attitudes towards violence: empirical evidence from Bangladesh

This study in Bangladesh used data from 520 adolescents from rural and urban settings, to explore the nature, structure, prevalence, correlates, and context of exposure to violence in terms of individual, household, and community characteristics. It examined the association between adolescents' exposure to violence and their attitudes toward violence. Using exploratory factor analysis (EFA) it was found that the items that indicate exposure to violence can be divided into high exposure items (>10%) and low exposure items (<10%). These items can be divided into four distinct factors: witnessing garden-variety violence, witnessing severe violence, sexual harassment, and direct experience of violence. The factors that were prominent for this population were fear, disposition to retaliate, and willingness to use a lethal weapon in the process. Additionally, fear was significantly informed by exposure to violence, disposition to retaliate was found to be widespread and significantly higher among girls, while, disposition to use weapons was linked to direct experiences of violence.

Download: [Murshid, K. and Murshid, N. \(2019\). Adolescent exposure to and attitudes toward violence: Empirical evidence from Bangladesh. Children and Youth Services Review, 98, pp.85-95. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2018.12.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2018.12.025)

Perpetration of sexual aggression among adolescents in South Africa

In South Africa, one in three men have reported perpetrating rape. Adolescence presents a unique developmental period for primary prevention of violence. However, few studies characterize the epidemiology of sexual violence among adolescents in South Africa. This study evaluated the rates of sexual violence behaviours of South African adolescents (n=200), age 13–15, recruited for participation in an intervention trial which focusses on preventing onset of depression and sexual risk behaviour. Sexual perpetration behaviours were assessed using the Sexual Experiences Survey - Short Form Perpetration. Adolescents most frequently reported the use of coercion, incapacitation, force or threats of force to perpetrate oral sex (15%) followed by sexual touching (14%), anal sex (8%), and vaginal sex at (6%). Perpetration was more common among males compared to females with males perpetrating at a rate of 34.5% vs. 20.5% among females. Attempted perpetration was reported at alarming rates including: vaginal sex (8%), oral sex (8%), and anal sex (5%). Therefore, interventions focused on prevention of sexual violence perpetration that include a gender- and developmentally-tailored approach are urgently needed for adolescents.

Download. [Pöllänen, K., de Vries, H., Mathews, C., Schneider, F. and de Vries, P. \(2018\). Beliefs About Sexual Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration Among Adolescents in South Africa. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, p.088626051875611. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2019.02.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2019.02.002)

'A child who is hidden has no rights': responses to violence against children with disabilities

Children with disabilities are at high risk for violence as they are often marginalised, isolated, targeted and have little power within their communities. Guided by social-ecological theory, this study explored responses to violence against children with disabilities, including preventative measures and treatment of victims in Guinea, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Participants (n=419) included disability stakeholders, community members including parents, teachers, and leaders; and children with disabilities. Using qualitative methods that included document analysis, semi-structured interviews, and focus groups the study found that responses to disability-based violence are driven at the mesosystem and exosystem levels. In addition, communities are leading responses to violence, and children with disabilities are hidden at home or in institutions for both their own and their family's safety. These findings can inform the development of prevention and intervention programs that will protect children with disabilities from violence in contexts with high levels of disability stigma, social conflict, violence, and poverty.

Download. [Njelesani, J. \(2019\). "A child who is hidden has no rights": Responses to violence against children with disabilities. Child Abuse & Neglect, 89, pp.58-69. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.12.024](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.12.024)

Explaining the links between child marriage and intimate partner violence: evidence from Ghana

In order to examine the relationship between child marriage and intimate partner violence in Ghana nationally representative cross-sectional data was collected from 2289 ever-married women and analysed using random-effects regression techniques. Women who married as children had lower levels of both education and household autonomy, and were more likely to endorse patriarchal gender norms compared to women who married as adults. Results also showed significant relationships between child marriage and physical, sexual and emotional IPV. Nonetheless, for physical and sexual violence, this relationship was completely mediated by differences in the socio-economic characteristics of the women, their attitude to gender norms and their autonomy within the household. Researchers must pay attention to these intermediary factors when theorising the relationship between child marriage and IPV. Policy makers in Ghana must ensure that young girls receive formal education and have the self-efficacy and skills to reject patriarchal gendered norms that threaten their security and well-being.

Download: [Tenkorang, E. \(2019\). Explaining the links between child marriage and intimate partner violence: Evidence from Ghana. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 89, pp.48-57. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2019.01.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2019.01.004)

Effects of education and poverty on the prevalence of girl child marriage in India: a district-level analysis

Child marriage remains widespread in India despite implementation of several policies and programmes that aim to eliminate the practice. This study examines the effects of girls' educational attainment and household poverty on the prevalence of female child marriage at the district-level in India. Multiple linear regression models were used to assess the factors of child marriage using data from the 2015-16 National Family Health Survey. The results indicate that girls with no schooling and primary level of education have a higher probability of getting married at an early age. However, likelihood of child marriage starts declining with secondary level of education with higher secondary and higher level of education significantly reducing the prevalence of child marriage. Similarly, richer families have a significantly smaller probability of child marriage than poorer families. The results indicate that increasing opportunities for girls' education and financial supports to the poor families could be effective strategies towards eliminating child marriage in India.

Download: [Paul, P. \(2019\). Effects of education and poverty on the prevalence of girl child marriage in India: A district-level analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 100, pp.16-21. DOI: 10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.02.033 \[Open Access\]\(#\)](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.02.033)

Sexual and reproductive health

Puberty and menstruation knowledge among young adolescents in low- and middle-income countries: a scoping review

This study presents a scoping review of evidence relating to knowledge and experiences of puberty and menstruation among females (10–14 years) in low- and middle-income countries. Forty-four items from 12 countries were identified from a systematic scoping review and screening of 8083 quality assessed items. A majority (40/44) of studies used school-based samples, and fifteen studies reported on interventions. Girls had inadequate knowledge about menstruation and menarche as a trigger for girls learning about menstruation was common. Adolescents struggled with menstrual hygiene and negative emotions were associated with menarche. A minority of studies dealt explicitly with puberty. Most girls obtained information about menstruation and/or puberty from their mothers, although this was not necessarily the preferred source of information. The focus on school-based studies mean we know little about young out-of-school adolescents. The evidence base lags behind the rise in interest from practitioners as well as the development of puberty and/or menstruation interventions.

Download: [Coast, E., Lattof, S. and Strong, J. \(2019\). Puberty and menstruation knowledge among young adolescents in low- and middle-income countries: a scoping review. *International Journal of Public Health* doi: 10.1007/s00038-019-01209-0 \[Open Access\]\(#\)](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-019-01209-0)

Perspectives on adolescent girls' health-seeking behaviour in relation to sexual and reproductive health in Nepal

This paper explores the health care providers' perspectives on adolescent girls' health-seeking behaviour in Nepal in relation to their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Twenty health-care providers were included in this study. The main category 'Barriers affect adolescent girls' health-seeking behaviour in relation to their sexual and reproductive health' was divided into five categories: a conservative society with social stigma; lack of information, education and knowledge; lack of facilities and respectful care; insufficient confidentiality and privacy; and unmet needs of adolescent-friendly facilities. Lack of knowledge among adolescent girls and unmet needs of adolescent-friendly facilities affect their access to sexual and reproductive health care in Nepal. Lack of knowledge could be seen as a barrier, and as a reason why adolescent girls do not seek sexual and reproductive health care.

Download: [Mattebo, M., Bogren, M., Brunner, N., Dolk, A., Pedersen, C. and Erlandsson, K. \(2019\). Perspectives on adolescent girls' health-seeking behaviour in relation to sexual and reproductive health in Nepal. Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare, 20, pp.7-12. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.srhc.2019.01.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.srhc.2019.01.006)

Adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Ethiopia and Rwanda: a qualitative exploration of the role of social norms

This article draws on qualitative research with 10- to 12-year-old and 14- to 15-year-old male and female adolescents and a range of adult participants to analyse adolescent understandings and experiences of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) in Ethiopia and Rwanda. The article is informed by a conceptual framework that draws on Amartya Sen's capability approach, which calls for investments in a broad set of assets that expand individuals' capacity to "be" and to "do." The article considers the role played by gendered social norms in adolescents' experiences of SRH-related understandings and experiences. Three key interrelated gender themes emerge from our thematic analyses of qualitative evidence: puberty transitions, sexuality, and victim blaming. Attention is paid to diversity among adolescents within and across the two countries and consideration into how discriminatory gendered social norms play a role in hindering the effective uptake of expanding health services. The study emphasizes the need for implementers to address the role of underlying social norms in a strategic and context-specific way to improve the SRH of young people.

Download: [Coast, E., Jones, N., Francoise, U., Yadete, W., Isimbi, R., Gezahegne, K. and Lunin, L. \(2019\). Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health in Ethiopia and Rwanda: A Qualitative Exploration of the Role of Social Norms. SAGE Open, 9\(1\), p.215824401983358. https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244019833587](https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244019833587) [Open Access](#)

Determinants of reproductive health services utilization among rural female adolescents in Asgede-Tsimbla district northern Ethiopia: a community based cross-sectional study

Adolescents especially females in rural area are vulnerable to a wide range of reproductive health problems and often have limited access to reproductive health services that focus on the special needs of female adolescents. This community-based cross-sectional study assesses the determinants of reproductive health service utilisation among rural female adolescents of Asgede-Tsimbla district. Data was collected from 844 female adolescents aged 15 and analysed using bivariate and multivariate logistic regression analysis. 95.5% of female adolescents heard about reproductive services from different sources and 69.7% of them utilised the reproductive health services within the last 12 months. Age of 16–20 years, mother's educational status, discussion about reproductive health services with their family, occupation, high perceived severity, high perceived barriers were independent predictors of reproductive health services utilisation among female adolescents. Introducing messages that increase the perceived threat and decreasing perceived barriers to reproductive health services as well as increasing self-efficacy of adolescent females would help increase reproductive health services utilisation.

Download: [Gebreyesus, H., Teweldemedhin, M. and Mamo, A. \(2019\). Determinants of reproductive health services utilization among rural female adolescents in Asgede-Tsimbla district Northern Ethiopia: a community based cross-sectional study. Reproductive Health, 16\(1\). doi: 10.1186/s12978-019-0664-2](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-019-0664-2) [Open Access](#)

Health and nutrition

Anemia among adolescent girls in three districts in Ethiopia

Adolescence is characterized by rapid growth and development with a significantly increased need for macro and micronutrients. However, there is little empirical evidence on the burden of anaemia among adolescent girls in low- and middle-income countries. The study aimed to evaluate the magnitude of anaemia of in school and out of school adolescent girls (n=1323) in Ethiopia using a community based cross sectional design. The study took place in randomly selected village across both rural and urban settings. Adolescent girls' levels of anaemia were tested, and analysed using logistic regression model, with adjustment for altitude and smoking status, to evaluate predictors of anaemia. The average rate of anaemia was 29%. Less than half of the girls heard the term anaemia, and about one third knew the relationship between anaemia and the intake of iron rich foods. The risk of anaemia is higher among adolescent girls in their early adolescence period (10–14 years) and among those who lived in moderately food insecure households. However, knowing the term “anaemia” was found to be protective against the risk of anaemia. Due to the high rates of anaemia in this population, this districts could be a candidate for intermittent iron and Folic acid supplementation program.

Download: [Gebreyesus, S., Endris, B., Beyene, G., Farah, A., Elias, F. and Bekele, H. \(2019\). Anaemia among adolescent girls in three districts in Ethiopia. BMC Public Health, 19\(1\). doi: 10.1186/s12889-019-6422-0](#) [Open Access](#)

Psychosocial well-being

Emotional and behavioural problems among adolescents in Pokhara city in Nepal

This study aims to estimate the prevalence of emotional and behavioral problems among adolescents. A descriptive cross-sectional study design was adopted to identify the emotional and behavioral problems among adolescents using cluster sampling technique. Assessment was done on students (n=330) aged 11-18 from two schools in city in Nepal using self-administered questionnaire. Prevalence of EBPs was 30.0% (Male-38.8% female-22.5%). Internalising problems (35.8%) were more common than externalising (18.5%). Occurrence of EBPs was significantly associated with sex, type of family and types of school. The most common problems were social (17.6%), thought (15.5%), somatic (13%), anxious depression (12.1%) and aggression (10.3%). Male adolescents were more likely to have thought-problem, rule-breaking problem, aggressive behavior while female were more likely to have social problems. Emotional and behavioral are a serious mental health concern among adolescents. An intervention strategy maybe required to understand their problems and provide appropriate counselling.

Download: [Sharma, B., Kumari Rai, M., Sharma, A., Karki, S. \(2019\). Emotional and Behavioral Problems among Adolescents in Pokhara City in Nepal. Journal of Nepal Health Research Council. 41\(16\), pp. 419-424](#) [Open Access](#)

Post-traumatic stress disorder and emotion dysregulation among Syrian refugee children and adolescents resettled in Lebanon and Jordan

Little research exists on the psychosocial adjustment of refugee children and adolescents resettled in Lebanon and Jordan. This study investigated the prevalence and predictors of PTSD and emotion dysregulation in Syrian refugee children and adolescents (n=1000) aged 7-18 years who resettled in Lebanon and Jordan. Results indicated that 45.6% of the refugees have developed PTSD with excessive risk for comorbidity with emotion dysregulation. Emotion dysregulation was reported by older refugee children and adolescents. The prevalence of PTSD was higher in refugee children and adolescents who had resettled in Lebanon than for those who had resettled in Jordan, and for those exposed to higher levels of war atrocities. PTSD symptomatology and emotion dysregulation in children and adolescents varied according to coping styles, family relationships, and school environment. Both decreased significantly with the passage of time spent in host country. These results may be used to formulate cognitive-behavioural coping interventions for adolescents.

Download: [Khamis, V. \(2019\). Posttraumatic stress disorder and emotion dysregulation among Syrian refugee children and adolescents resettled in Lebanon and Jordan. Child Abuse & Neglect, 89, pp.29-39](#) doi:org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.12.013

Suicidal ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts among adolescents in 59 low-income and middle-income countries: a population-based study

Suicide is a major global health challenge and a leading cause of death among adolescents, but research related to suicide has concentrated on high-income countries. This study aimed to estimate the prevalence of suicidal ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts in adolescents from 59 low-income and middle-income countries. Using data from the Global School-based Student Health Survey of 229 129 schoolchildren aged 13–17, the estimates of regional and overall prevalence of suicidal ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts were computed. The overall prevalence of suicidal ideation was 16.9%, suicide planning was 17.0%, and suicide attempts was 17.0% in the 12 months preceding survey completion. The African region had the highest prevalence of suicidal ideation (20.4%) and suicide planning (23.7%), and the western Pacific region had the highest prevalence of suicide attempts (20.5%). Girls had higher prevalence than boys and adolescents aged 15–17 years had higher prevalence than those aged 13–14 years for suicidal ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts. Targeted suicide prevention initiatives are needed and should take into account the diverse range of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds of the countries.

Download: [Uddin, R., Burton, N., Maple, M., Khan, S. and Khan, A. \(2019\). Suicidal ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts among adolescents in 59 low-income and middle-income countries: a population-based study. The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health, 3\(4\), pp.223-233. https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(18\)30403-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(18)30403-6)

Prevalence of depressive symptoms and associated factors among adolescents living with HIV/AIDS in south western Uganda

Adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV) are prone to depression, which can have detrimental effects including disease progression, poor treatment adherence and mortality. This study aimed to determine the prevalence of depressive symptoms and their associated factors among ALHIV in Uganda. It used a cross-sectional survey among 336 ALHIV (10–19 years, 62% female) attending urban and rural clinics in Mbarara, Uganda. A third had disclosed their HIV/AIDS status and 13% were sexually active. Overall, around 46% had depressive symptoms. Using bivariate analysis adolescents who were ≥ 15 years, had disclosed HIV status, travelled >30 min for routine care and had risky sexual practices had higher odds of having depressive symptoms. However, on multiple variable analysis, only travel time to the clinic of >30 min was independently associated with depressive symptoms. With the high prevalence of depressive symptoms among ALHIV in Uganda, screening and prompt treatment of depression should be incorporated within their routine care.

Download: [Kemigisha, E., Zaroni, B., Bruce, K., Menjivar, R., Kadengye, D., Atwine, D. and Rukundo, G. \(2019\). Prevalence of depressive symptoms and associated factors among adolescents living with HIV/AIDS in South Western Uganda. AIDS Care, pp.1-7.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aids.2019.01.017)

Voice and agency

HIV risk among displaced adolescent girls in Ethiopia: the role of gender attitudes and self-esteem

Adolescent girls in sub-Saharan Africa have been deemed one of the most at risk populations for getting HIV. Experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV), harmful gender norms, diminished personal agency, and age-disparate sex have been identified as factors that increase this risk. Using data from three refugee camps in Ethiopia, this study examined the associations between HIV risk factors, attitudes on gender inequality, IPV acceptability, and self-esteem for female adolescent refugees primarily from Sudan and South Sudan ($n = 919$). When adjusting for age and education, results showed girls who were more accepting of gender inequitable norms and IPV had greater odds of ever experiencing forced or transactional sex. Higher self-esteem was associated with increased odds of condom use as well as decreased odds of adolescent marriage, age-disparate sex, and transactional sex. The findings suggest that greater attention should be made towards the intersections of gender equality and self-valuation when seeking to understand HIV risk among this population.

Download: [Bermudez, L., Yu, G., Lu, L., Falb, K., Eoomkham, J., Abdella, G. and Stark, L. \(2018\). HIV Risk among Displaced Adolescent Girls in Ethiopia: the Role of Gender Attitudes and Self-Esteem. *Prevention Science*, 20\(1\), pp.137-146.](#)

Relationships between media exposure and knowledge, attitude, and practice on HIV/AIDS: a cross sectional survey of adolescent Islamiyya girls in Nigeria

This study aims to examine the impact HIV/AIDS media exposure has on knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) of adolescent Islamiyya girls in northern Nigeria. The objectives of the study were to (1) identify the girls' major sources of information on HIV/AIDS; (2) assess their exposure to HIV/AIDS media and their HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitude and practice; and (3) verify relationships between media exposure and HIV/AIDS KAP. A questionnaire survey was administered on a randomly selected sample of 500 adolescents. The results showed media exposure is not a significant predictor of HIV/AIDS practice, but it is a significant predictor of HIV/AIDS knowledge. And HIV/AIDS knowledge significantly predicted both HIV/AIDS attitude and practice. HIV/AIDS attitude also significantly predicted HIV/AIDS practice. It is thus concluded that among Nigerian adolescent girls, exposure to HIV/AIDS media is a necessary but not a sufficient predictor of HIV/AIDS KAP.

Download: [Muhammad Hamid, A., Tamam, E. and Nizam bin Osman, M. \(2019\). Relationships between Media Exposure and Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice on HIV/AIDS: A Cross Sectional Survey of Adolescent Islamiyya Girls in Nigeria. *Health Communication*, pp.1-11. doi: 10.1080/10410236.2018.1564960](#)

Economic empowerment

Effects of a social empowerment intervention on economic vulnerability for adolescent refugee girls in Ethiopia

This article examines the effects of a girls' social empowerment programme on economic vulnerability of refugee girls in Ethiopia. Adolescents aged 13–19 years from three refugee camps were randomly assigned to either a treatment or control condition. Participants in the treatment condition received 40 fixed-curriculum, mentor-facilitated sessions once a week over a period of 10 months. Caregivers of girls in the treatment arm also participated in 10 discussion sessions. The study found that, following the intervention, girls in the treatment arm were no more or less likely than those in the control arm to attend school, work for pay, work for pay while not being enrolled in school, or engage in transactional sexual exploitation. Findings suggest that stand-alone social empowerment programs may not reduce economic vulnerability for adolescent girls without simultaneously implementing economic empowerment programmes or taking additional measures to address broader structural barriers.

Download: [Stark, L., Seff, I., Assezenew, A., Eoomkham, J., Falb, K. and Ssewamala, F. \(2018\). Effects of a Social Empowerment Intervention on Economic Vulnerability for Adolescent Refugee Girls in Ethiopia. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 62\(1\), pp.S15-S20. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2017.06.014> **Open Access**](#)

Factors affecting entrepreneurial intentions among youths in Vietnam

This study aims to clarify the factors influencing the entrepreneurial intentions among youths in Vietnam. An online survey was conducted in 1600 youths in Vietnam. Instruments included socio-demographic characteristics, scales to measure entrepreneurial intentions, social norms, attitudes toward entrepreneurship, perceived behavioural control, attitudes toward money, desire for success, education about entrepreneurship, experiences with entrepreneurship, business environment, and creativity. Multivariate linear regression was used to identify the connections between entrepreneurial intentions and potential antecedents. The level of entrepreneurial intentions was medium. The mean score of "Desire for success and challenge" was the highest at 3.784, following by "Entrepreneurship education" at 3.637. The lowest score was 3.071 in "Perceived Behavioural Control". Results show that Desire for success and challenge, Attitude toward

Entrepreneurship, Perceived Behavioural Control, Experiences with Entrepreneurship, and Creativity were positively correlated with the entrepreneurial intentions, in which, Attitude toward Entrepreneurship had the highest influence. This study highlighted the medium level of entrepreneurial intentions among Vietnamese youths. Providing innovative educational support and organizing business contests in school, as well as developing youth entrepreneurship-oriented policies are vital to encourage youths' interest in entrepreneurship.

Download: [Nguyen, A., Do, T., Vu, T., Dang, K. and Nguyen, H. \(2019\). Factors affecting entrepreneurial intentions among youths in Vietnam. Children and Youth Services Review, 99, pp.186-193. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.01.039](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.01.039)

Assessing assets among street-connected youth: new angles with participatory methods in Tanzania

Street-connected adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa have been neglected in scholarly research. This study describes strengths and assets among street-connected youth in Tanzania, using a participatory, mixed methods approach. Adolescents (N = 38, 13-17 years) in a rehabilitation centre for street youth in Northern Tanzania completed the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP). They engaged in participatory activities designed to capture multiple perspectives and promote maximal engagement. A subsample of youth took part in photovoice to elucidate contextual details. Results revealed a moderately high level of assets, with strengths in constructive use of time and commitment to school. External assets were higher than internal assets; however, different assets were emphasised across different methods. Overall, results supported the DAP framework. The participatory approaches effectively engaged youth and illuminated the culture and context of their development.

Download: [Johnson, L., Drescher, C., Assenga, S. and Marsh, R. \(2019\). Assessing Assets Among Street-Connected Youth: New Angles With Participatory Methods in Tanzania. Journal of Adolescent Research, p.074355841882233. DOI: 10.1177/0743558418822334](https://doi.org/10.1177/0743558418822334)

SPECIAL ISSUE CALLS

The Journal of Early Adolescence

Call for papers: Special Issue on the 'Social-contextual Predictors of Early Adolescents' Responses to Peer Victimization'

This special issues aims to examine how social forces, such as parents, teachers and peers influence responses to peer victimization, as well as psychosocial adjustment in the context of peer victimization. Full manuscripts limited to 35 pages are due 15th May 2019.

Further information: https://journals.sagepub.com/pb-assets/cmscontent/JEA/JEA_SpecialIssueCFP_Nov18.pdf

International Journal of Qualitative Methods

Call for papers: Special issue on 'the Constructions of 'Children's Voices' in Qualitative Research

The goal of this special issue is to critically consider how 'the child voice' is conceptualized in qualitative research. It invites manuscripts that build on theorizations of 'voice', consider ethical issues and address methodological challenges in representing children's voices through qualitative research. Full manuscripts limited to 7500 words are due 31st August 2019.

Further information: <https://journals.sagepub.com/page/ijq/collections/call-for-papers/construction-of-childrens-voices>

The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry

Special issue on 'Risks and Opportunities for Child and Adolescent Mental Health in the Digital Age,' edited by Professor Sonia Livingstone

The aim of this special issue is to address the urgent need for rigorous research on the impact of digital technology on child and adolescent mental health. Letters of interest (up to 600 words) should be submitted to Prabh.Choubina@acamh.org by the 31st March 2019

Further information: https://wol-prod-cdn.literatumonline.com/pb-assets/ACAMH/JCPP_Special%20issue%202020.pdf

Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS)

Special issue on 'Data-driven HIV prevention: the HIV prevention cascade and beyond'

This special issue aims to strengthen the operationalization of the HIV prevention cascade and develop approaches to facilitate data-driven HIV prevention programming. Draft papers should be emailed to Bernadette.Hensen@lshtm.ac.uk by the 15th July 2019.

Further information: https://www.iasociety.org/Web/WebContent/File/JIAS_HIVPreventionCascade_CallforPapers.pdf

PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

Special issue on 'Catalyzing NTD gender and equity research: A call for papers'

The aim of this special issue is to understand how and why sex and gender influence factors such as NTD acquisition risk, disease experience, morbidity and disability consequences, or programmatic delivery and access. Submissions are due by the 1st June.

Further information: <https://journals.plos.org/plosntds/article?id=10.1371/journal.pntd.0006681>

EVENTS

GIRL-CENTRED DESIGN REGIONAL TRAINING FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

Date: 29th April-1st May 2019

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Event outline: GirlSPARKS is a global training initiative that uses Girl-Centred Design to supply practitioners with the knowledge, tools and skills to provide better programming for adolescent girls. This event is a 3-day interactive training workshop for organisations working in Asia and the Pacific. The workshop aims to give practitioners the skills and tools they need to design international programming for girls, or to improve their current programming to be more girl-centred.

More information: on the event can be found [here](#)

YOUTHPOWER Learning Webinar: Children and adolescents speaking truth to adults: ethics and participation

Date: 4th April 2019

Location: Online

Event outline: This webinar panel brings ethics at the forefront of their discussion on children and adolescents' participation. It will consider how several gatekeepers (parents, schools, local authorities) can facilitate or interfere with their right to participate. The panel will offer a cross-national perspective with examples from Canada, Europe, and Low and Middle Income Countries. The discussion will focus on ways to ensure meaningful participation, such as visual methods and robust consent processes.

More information: on the event can be found [here](#)

CONFERENCES

ICCAP 2019: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

Date: 27th-29th May 2019

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Conference outline: The International Conference on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

More information and call for contributions: on the conference can be found [here](#) deadline for abstracts 28th March

CHILD MARRIAGE IN FORCED MIGRATION: SOCIAL PROCESSES IN-FLUX

Date: 16th-17th May 2019

Location: London, UK

Conference outline: This conference will examine the impact of forced migration on child marriage through changes in gender dynamics and identities, place/home-making, people's aspirations for the future and access to justice as well as conceptions of risk, vulnerability, protection, agency and resilience. Migration theorists, anthropologists, human geographers, development specialists and others will build on, and consolidate, this knowledge by considering how these social processes in-flux affect the approaches used in response by a range of actors.

RSVP: More information and registration form can be found can be found [here](#)

IUSSP POPULATION, POVERTY AND INEQUALITY RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Date: 27th-29th June 2019

Location: Michigan, USA

Conference outline: The IUSSP Scientific Panel on Population, Poverty and Inequality aims to produce policy-relevant evidence on the interactions between population dynamics and poverty and inequality. The conference has a focus on low- and middle-income countries and is interested in how population dynamics interact with poverty and inequality.

More information: on the conference can be found can be found [here](#)

This GAGE Research Panorama was prepared by Megan Devonald, GAGE Qualitative Research Assistant.

Please send us details of upcoming events, publications or calls for papers which you would like featured in subsequent editions of the digest. You can email the details to Megan Devonald (m.devonald.gage@odi.org.uk).