

Listening with an Impact: Age-Appropriate Evaluation Methods for Very Young Adolescents

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Our Vision



Boys and Girls who:

- ✓ Feel safe emotionally and physically
- ✓ Are physically and mentally healthy
- ✓ Have a positive sense of self-efficacy and emerging gender and sexual identities
- ✓ Are gender equitable
- ✓ Are engaged with learning
- ✓ Are developing life skills

Background

- Healthy sexual development and socialization of Very Young Adolescents (VYAs) influence relationship and health outcomes throughout the life course
- There are few documented programs for this age group
- There are even fewer evaluated programs for this age group
- Meeting needs of adolescents at this critical age of transition requires strong evaluations



Evaluation Challenges

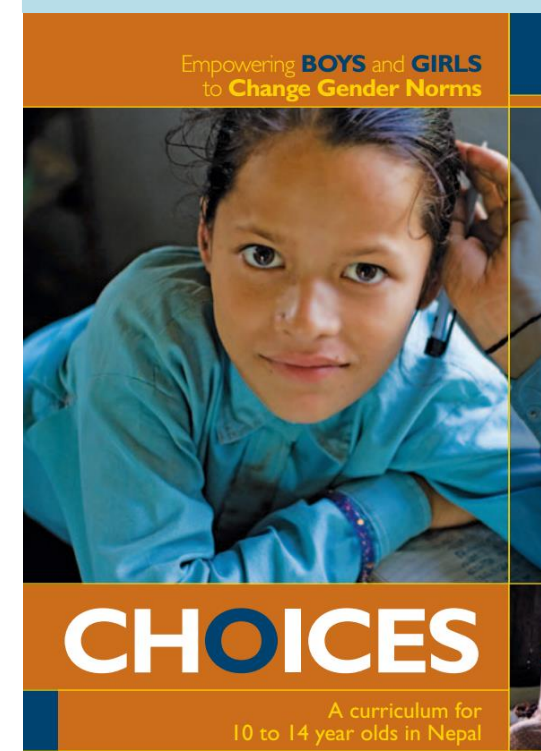
1. Establishing meaningful, age-appropriate indicators
2. Research methods advantage adult social and communication skills and knowledge
3. Enabling youth to articulate thoughts given short attention spans
4. Shifting the balance of power from interviewer to youth
5. Measuring changes in gender attitudes, self-esteem, other elusive constructs
6. Producing quantifiable results



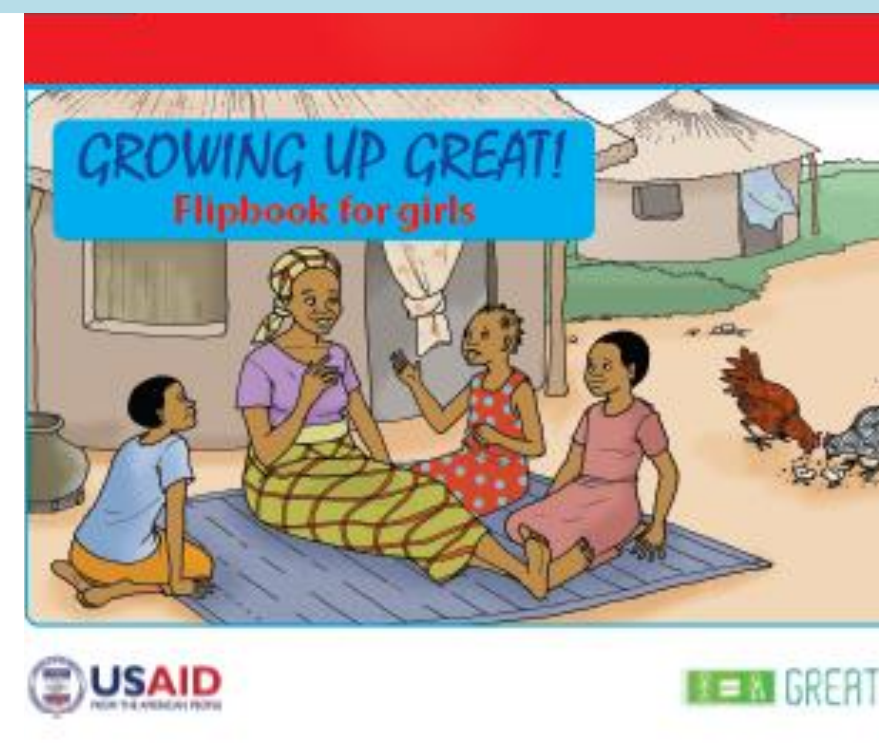
Case Studies

Global Programs

Young Adolescent Project (DSW)
Entre Amigas (PATH)
Abriendo Oportunidades (Population Council)
PRACHAR (Pathfinder)
ISHRAQ (Population Council)
“Growth & Changes” puberty books

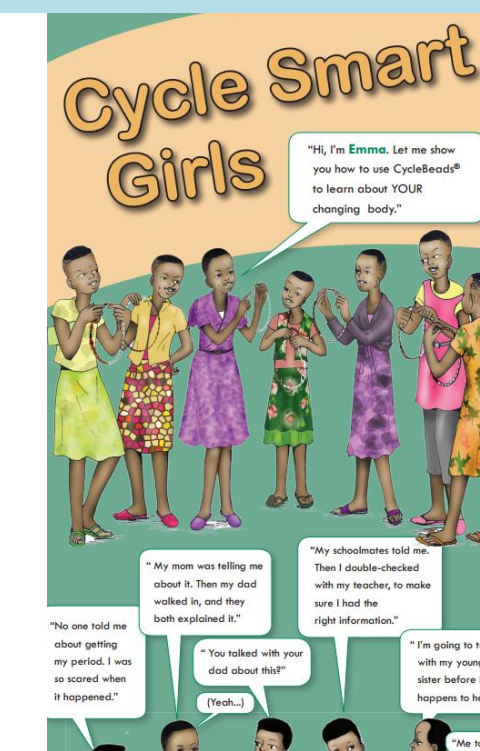


CHOICES
(developed by Save the Children)
✓ Nepal
✓ 2009-2010
✓ Save the Children
✓ Maithili, English

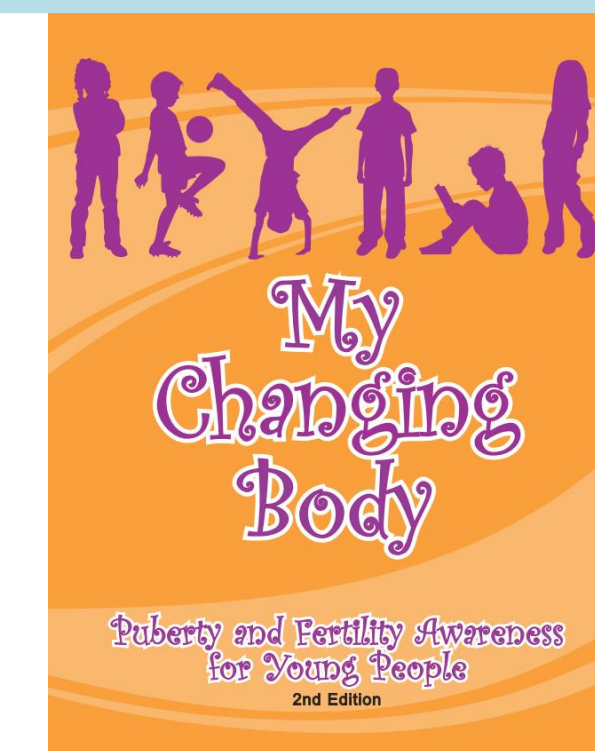


IRH-Supported Programs

GREAT Toolkit
✓ Uganda
✓ 2012-2013
✓ Pathfinder, Save the Children
✓ English, Acholi, Lango, French, Portuguese



CycleSmart™
✓ Rwanda, Guatemala, U.S.
✓ 2012-2013
✓ CBOs
✓ English, French, Spanish, Kinyarwanda



My Changing Body
✓ Rwanda, Guatemala
✓ 2005-2010
✓ CRS, APROFAM
✓ English, French, Spanish, Kinyarwanda

Age-Appropriate Evaluation

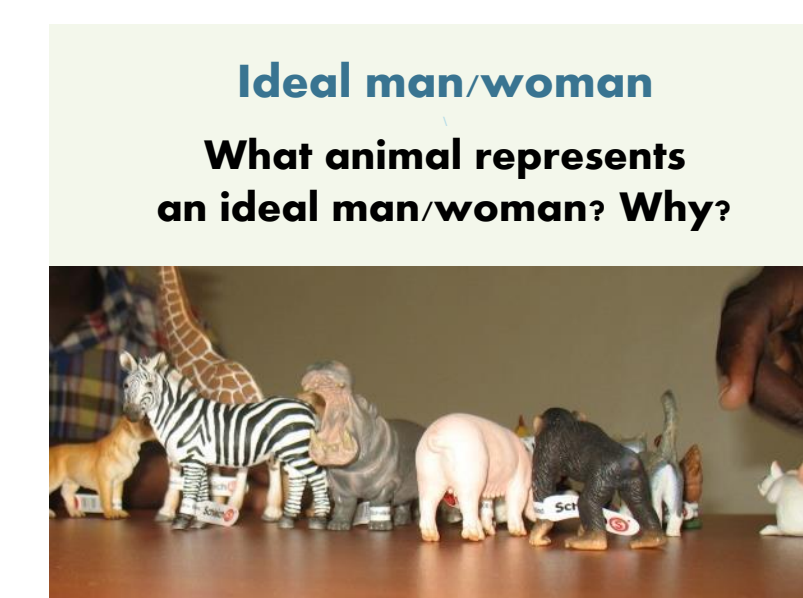
Quantitative Methods

- Card games (scale items, advice, opinions)
- Pile sorts (how often do you, gender roles)
- Vote with your feet
- Secret envelope (violence, how often do you)
- Projective techniques (toy animals)
- Vignettes (scenarios often faced by adolescents)

Qualitative Methods

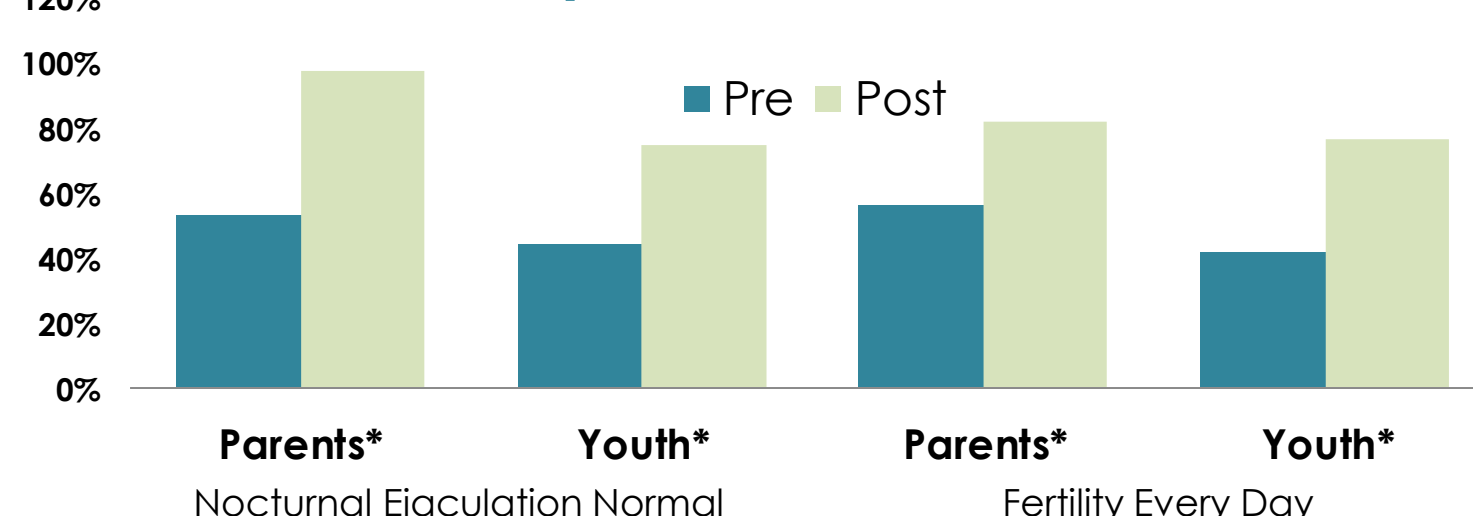
- Photo elicitation
- Photo voice
- Projective drawing
- Community/social mapping
- Timeline

Juan is 14 years old. Last month when he woke up, his underwear was a little wet and he realized he had his first ejaculation. Sometimes his penis gets hard when he sees someone he likes. He is not sure if that is normal, but he is too embarrassed to talk about this with anyone.



Select Results

KNOWLEDGE OF MALE FERTILITY AMONG YOUTH & PARENTS BEFORE & AFTER (CARD GAME, MY CHANGING BODY)



SELECTED PRE-POST TEST RESULTS: GENDER ATTITUDES (CARD GAME, CHOICES)

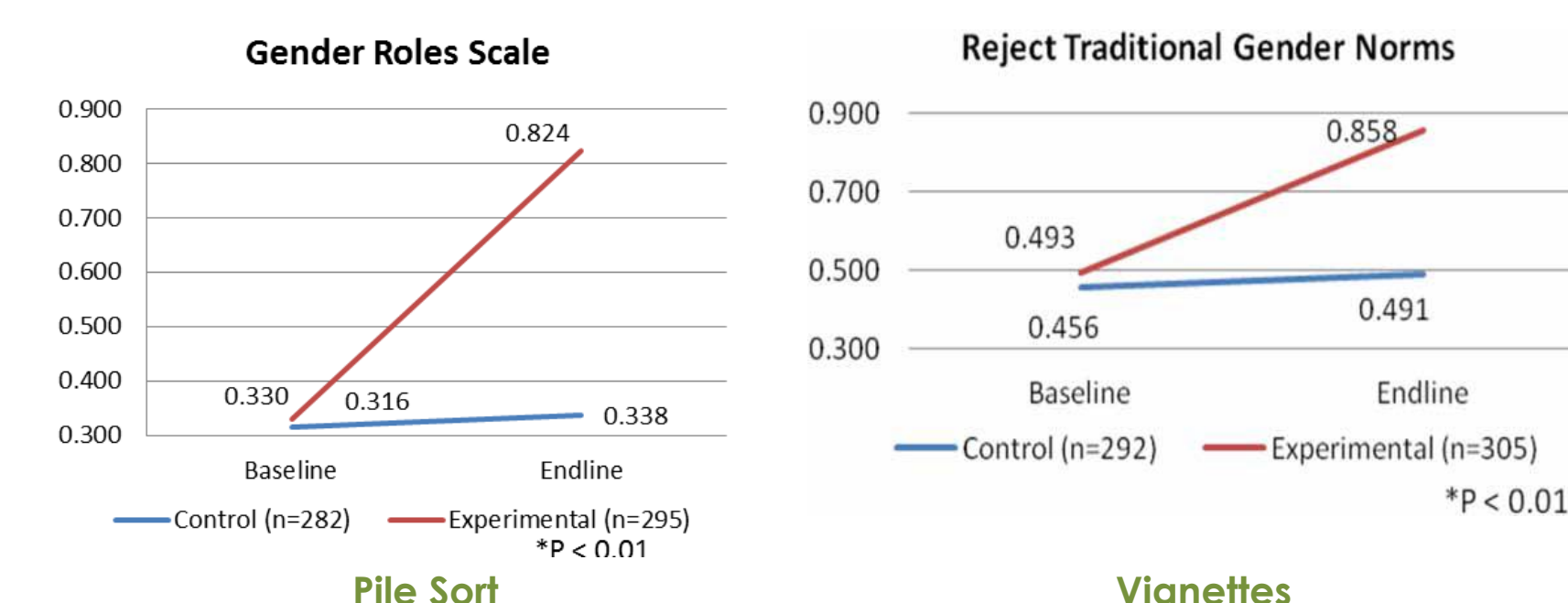
SCALES	BASELINE		ENDLINE	
	Control (n=294)	Experimental* (n=309)	Control (n=294)	Experimental* (n=309)
Discrimination	.388	.421	.475	.823
Social Image	.401	.426	.419	.786
Control and Dominance	.372	.364	.419	.629
Violence	.457	.457	.440	.812
Girls Education	.322	.385	.434	.778

*P<0.01

COMPARISON OF CONTROL & EXPERIMENTAL GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS (CHOICES)



SELECTED PRE-POST TEST RESULTS: GENDER ROLES (CHOICES)



*P<0.01

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Young Adolescents can be reliable, competent informants
- ✓ Use appropriate and visual methods
- ✓ Techniques designed to tap into underlying motivations are most effective
- ✓ Anticipate ethical challenges
- ✓ Giving youth more control works
- ✓ Be creative, mind the context, engage participants in innovative ways
- ✓ Triangulate to measure success in programs for young adolescents

For more information, please visit:
www.irh.org



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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