



The MexFam CSE curriculum focuses on gender, power and violence prevention. MexFam.



WORKING WITH ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS TO REDUCE GBV

Identifying effective ways to prevent forms of gender-based violence (GBV) among adolescents and youths is vital to reduce rates of GBV.

Adolescents are uniquely impacted by GBV: their young age and inexperience with relationships can heighten their risk for physical and sexual intimate partner violence. Being a victim of GBV during adolescence can lead to long-lasting negative mental and physical health outcomes, and can set young women on a trajectory for subsequent abuse.

Several research interventions funded by the [Development Marketplace: Innovations to Address GBV](#) show promise in engaging with adolescents and youths to reduce GBV.

and outdated perceptions about gender norms and sexual violence were also reduced. As a result of a successful pilot, the Moldovan Ministry of Education is considering rolling out the course to additional schools.

IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS

RESULTS

[La Strada Moldova](#) studied the effects of the “Harmonious family relationships” course, delivered to Moldovan teenagers from 10th–12th grades to teach assertive communication along with increased ability to manage family conflicts and develop sustainable relationships. The course increased teenagers’ ability to recognize signs of manipulation and abuse, as well as knowledge of risky behaviors. Stereotypes

REDUCING CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

RESULTS

WORK IN PROGRESS

In Eswatini, the [University of California, San Diego](#) and [University of Eswatini](#) studied the prevalence and correlates of sexual abuse victimization of female university students at the University of Eswatini, through quantitative study and survivor in-depth interviews. The soon-to-be published findings reveals high levels of sexual violence



YTH and GoJoven work with adolescents in Honduras to address teen dating violence. YTH and GoJoven.

experienced in student lifetimes (over 50%), and a significant association between symptoms consistent with depression, and experience of lifetime sexual assault, food insecurity, and street-based sexual harassment. They are using their learnings to adapt the EAAA intervention for the Eswatini context. EAAA was found to reduce sexual assault by 50% among university women in Canada. It is designed to help young women collectively recognize gendered social norms that put all women at risk of experiencing sexual assault, and to build their confidence resisting men who mean them harm. The adapted program is named #GameChangers or Bagugculi Betintfo in siSwati. The team trained facilitators to implement the program, and ran a pilot test. They are undertaking a study examining the intervention.

SUPPORTING ADOLESCENT MOTHERS

WORK IN PROGRESS

The **Juanfe** Colombia intervention 'Model 360' sets out to prevent violence against adolescent girls and women by empowering adolescent mothers and providing physical, emotional, psychological health, and educational support before violence occurs. The intervention promotes the development of mothers and their children, in hopes of preventing the emergence of cases of violence against them and in their homes.

Juanfe is undertaking a medium- and long-term impact evaluation of the intervention.

PREVENTING TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

WORK IN PROGRESS

ZonaSegura is a trauma-informed, youth-centered innovative research study and mobile solution to address teen dating violence in Honduras. Led by **YTH** in partnership with the Public Health Institute's **GOJoven International Program** and **GOJoven Honduras**, this applied study aims to explore the impact of a mobile app and WhatsApp messaging campaign. These aim to reduce dating violence through providing prevention information, healthy relationship education, and linkages to teen dating violence services and resources. ZonaSegura leverages the high rates of mobile phone usage among young women and girls in Honduras.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

WORK IN PROGRESS

Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) which addresses violence and gender equality as well as sexual and reproductive health has been shown in some contexts to prevent intimate partner violence among young people. More than 45% of the Mexican population is under 25 years of age and the country has relatively high school

attendance so school-based comprehensive sexuality education can reach large numbers of youth. **International Planned Parenthood Federation** and **Fundación Mexicana para la Planeación Familiar (MexFam)** are studying the MexFam CSE curriculum, which focuses on gender, power and violence prevention, to establish how the school-based sexuality education program can reduce intimate partner violence and translate these findings into practice. Sexualidades, derechos y Educacion or SexDE is a 20-hour comprehensive sexuality intervention course is delivered weekly over a semester by trained health educators. Drawing from qualitative and quantitative data collected from a school in the south of Mexico City, the team is undertaking longitudinal data analysis to examine the trajectories of intervention participants with respect to violence prevention. The course uses a range of participatory techniques to support self-reflection and the questioning of social norms related to gender and violence. ■

Development Marketplace: Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence funds ground-breaking GBV research in low- and middle-income countries across the globe. It is a partnership between the **World Bank Group** and the **Sexual Violence Research Initiative**. Over four years, the partnership has funded research projects in 28 countries.