

Youth Network Against FGM

Programme Impact Capturing Tool

Name of Trainers	Ojimadu Olachi Peace Ukwa Raymond Ojay Lugard Sadjini Patrick Wilson (SOTHAWACA) Asije Sunday (SOTHAWACA) Uko Agnes (VOLUNTEER)	Address of schools	Gaplona RD, GRA, Oredo LGA Benin City. Okpokumi – Emai Owan East LGA Edo State
Gender of Students	Male and Female	Average Age	12 – 18 yrs
Name of Schools	Oba Ewuare Grammar School. Okpokhumi Grammar Shool.	Dates	13 th - 14 th March, 2018

Programme Title: COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION(C.S.E) ACTIVITY

Programme Description

The Comprehensive Sexuality Education Program is designed to bridge the information gap on sexuality in 2 selected secondary schools per State (Delta and Benin) in Nigeria. The program is intended to give the students a comprehensive summary of how to be as assertive in making informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health in their early lives and beyond. It gives them a glimpse into the world of morality and sexuality and teaches them that as young people, they have autonomy over their bodies. Furthermore, the project encourages youth to seek advice and counseling from professional.

The programme was a 3-hour training held at Oba Ewuare Grammar School in Delta state and Okpokhumi Grammar School in Edo state held on the 13th& 14th March 2018 respectively. The peer educator trainer module was adopted, which led to classes split into different groups, with a total of 5 classes for Oba Ewuare Grammar School. Each trainer was assigned to 16 students, except for 3 classes which had 10, 15 and 15 Students each. We had a total of 72 Students comprising both male & female students. Of this number, 26 were drawn from the senior class and 46 from the junior class. A random selection of the students was done to achieve this.

For Okpokhumi Grammar School, 50 students were randomly selected and split into 3 groups comprising 17 students in two groups and 16 students in the third group.

The training was an interactive session, covering the following modules;

1. Puberty
2. Menstrual Hygiene
3. Relationships
4. Sexual Health - sexuality, sexual rights, reproductive health, STIs, Contraception, Abortion, Drug Abuse.
5. Access to Right Counseling.

Lesson Learned

What worked, what didn't work and what we should do better?

1. Having a specific number of students worked well, as this helped us manage the crowd, and enhanced effective learning on the part of the students who would conduct step-down training among their peers.
2. Approval Letters from the Ministry of Education should be gotten prior to the date of training, this is to enable mapped out schools grant us access to carry out trainings in their schools.
3. Team members delegated to carry out various assignments must do this diligently and on time, giving evidence or proof of assignments well delivered.
4. Confirmation of appointments to schools prior to date of training must be confirmed before team members training, and travel arrangements (if necessary) should be processes early.
5. Partnering organizations, if suggesting/recommending/or has promised to fix appointments with schools, should confirm prior to date of training. If there be changes, partnering organizations should notify YNAFGM beforehand for alternative plans to be made.
6. More female volunteers should be considered for subsequent trainings. This gives the female students a sense of belonging and boosts their confidence in sharing personal stories.

Impact Statements

What positive changes have occurred because of the programme? What are the positive outcomes?

One peculiar observation about students trained is that he both junior & senior students all have a background knowledge about Module 1 – 4 stated above but lack proper knowledge about Module 5 which is very important. Stories gathered indicated that some of the students have suffered health complications resulting from unsafe abortion resulting from lack of information and counseling. Hence the need to adapt the referral strategy, to enable students seeking and wanting to share information in confidence to access this easily. Team members gave contact details of the Programmes Hotlines for ease of contact.

The trainees also revealed that they have acquaintances that have accessed unsafe abortion without medical consultation. Furthermore, the programme gathered that some of the students with ages ranging from 14yrs – 16yrs have undergone unsafe abortions without proper understanding of the health implications. Most of these students go to road side patent medical vendors or seek advice from peer groups, among other about how to carry out abortion.

The following were some of the personal stories gathered:

1. Glory Titilope, a female student in Junior Secondary School 2 (Oba Ewuare Grammar School) shares with the class: *" I have a friend who was my classmate. She got pregnant and while trying to abort the baby, because she couldn't stand the shame and mockery from her friends and family, her mother took her to a local traditionalist who said the only way to remove the baby was by leaving the girl in his care. Later on, it was noticed that this traditionalist was having sex with the pregnant girl. Both the baby and my friend died during the process of abortion"*.
2. Oritsetsolaye Tsanomi, a male student in Junior Secondary School 3A says: *"STI is caused by prostitution and another cause of prostitution is unemployment"*. This unfortunately happens to be the idea the teenagers grow up with, looking forward to prostitution as a lifestyle and only means of making money.
3. Fabode Jennifer, a female student in Junior Secondary School 2B (13yrs) revealed that she was almost raped by her aunties' husband when she went for holidays at her aunties' house. In her

words *“During one of my holidays at my aunties’ house, while my aunty is away, her husband tried to rape e. But my aunty suddenly came in and he left the room. I came back home and told my grandma but she never believed me, rather my aunty accused me of being a home breaker wanting to snatch her husband’*. She wrote down this story privately to a one of the trainers, asking for help on how she could go treat the issue.

4. Ighodaro Jessica, a female student in Senior Secondary School 2A wrote down these four questions privately;

a. *Is it advisable to mingle with boys, as in hugging, sitting on lap, being intimate with them?*

b. *Is it advisable to date at this stage?*

c. *Can I also relate with our opposite sex about my sexuality?*

d. *Is it okay to tell the boys about my menstruation?*

These questions, clearly reveals her curiosity to know more about sexual health and the current sexual advances she could be getting from her classmates of the opposite sex in her class.

5. Alile Glory, a female student in Junior Secondary School 2A also wrote down this question *“Can dating also be defined as a boy taking a girl out?”*. This question underscores reality of the early onset of sexual advancements from boys on girls in secondary schools and If not properly guided, she would be at risk of teenage pregnancy.

6.

7. Isaiah Lucky, a male student in Senior Secondary School 1C (17yrs) also wrote down asking *“When a woman is not able to give birth to children, is it always the male problem?”*.

The numerous questions asked by students during the training for both classes highlight the relevance of the programme and underscores why comprehensive sexuality education should be taught at an earlier especially in secondary schools. They different experiences of the younger students indicate that they want to explore and should be educated to make informed choices. This can be achieved by providing proper counseling services and referral pathways in secondary schools in Nigeria.



