

**FACT
SHEET**



SRHR IN NIGERIA

**WHAT YOU SHOULD
KNOW**

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WHAT IS SRHR?

FACT SHEET

SRHR stands for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights.

It means that everyone, including young people, should be able to:

- Access accurate sexual health information
- Make informed choices about their bodies and relationships
- Access services like contraception, safe abortion, STI testing, and maternal care
- Live free from sexual violence, coercion, and discrimination



SRHR Realities in Nigeria

1. Adolescents & Youth



Over 60% of Nigeria's population is under 25, yet Yet, only 12.2% of adolescent girls (15–19) have comprehensive knowledge about SRHR.

2. Teenage Pregnancy



19% of girls aged 15–19 have begun childbearing. Early pregnancy often means school dropouts, unsafe abortions, and increased poverty.

3. Access to Contraceptives



Nigeria's modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR) is just 17.4% among all women. Among married adolescents (15–19), it's even lower at 4.5%.



REFERENCES:

UNFPA Nigeria Youth Data 2023

NDHS 2018

UNICEF Nigeria 2023

PMI 2023 | Track20 FP2020 Nigeria



SRHR Realities in Nigeria (cont.d)

4. Unsafe Abortions



Around 1.25 million abortions occur in Nigeria every year, most of them unsafe. Unsafe abortion is a leading cause of maternal mortality, especially among young people.

5. Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



1 in 3 Nigerian girls has experienced sexual or gender-based violence before age 18. Reporting is low due to stigma, fear, and lack of youth-friendly support services.

Barriers Young People Face



Cultural & religious silence/taboo around sexuality

This silence often leads to misinformation, shame, and a lack of access to vital information and resources, particularly for young people.



Low investment in youth-friendly health centers

The lack of investment often manifests as insufficient infrastructure, inadequate staffing, limited supplies and medicines, and a lack of comprehensive services tailored to the specific needs of adolescents and young adults.



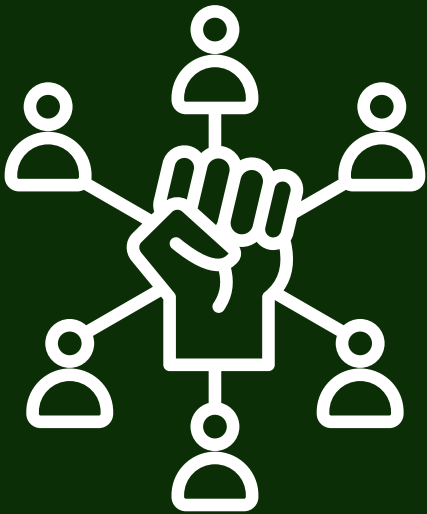
Restrictive laws on abortion and sexuality education

These laws often lead to unsafe abortions, maternal mortality, and hinder access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information.

REFERENCES:

Guttmacher Institute, 2022
UNICEF 2023 VACS Nigeria

SRHR in Nigeria



Why does SRHR Matter?

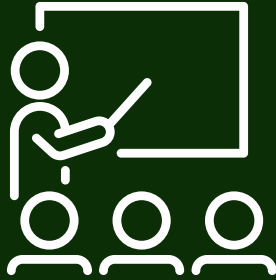
- Empowered youth = healthier communities and stronger economies.
- Access to SRHR helps reduce unwanted pregnancies, maternal deaths, and HIV/STIs.
- Informed youth make informed choices, protecting their bodies, dreams, and futures.

What needs to change?

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in schools
- Youth-friendly and non-judgmental SRHR services at health facilities
- Rights-based healthcare
- Policies that listen to young people's realities and protect their rights



What is YNCSD doing?

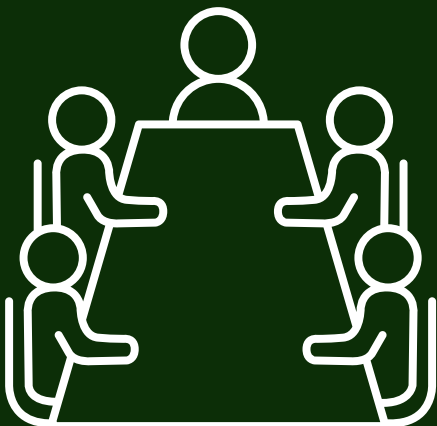


Training peer educators to drive SRHR awareness in communities

YNCSD provides peer educators with comprehensive knowledge, communication skills, and resources to address sensitive topics like contraception, STIs, and gender-based violence.

Advocating for inclusive SRHR policies

YNCSD, through robust advocacy and stakeholder engagements, is working to ensure access to rights-based, women-centered healthcare while addressing barriers like stigma, misinformation and disinformation.



Engaging traditional and religious leaders to break harmful norms

Engaging traditional and religious leaders is a crucial strategy for breaking harmful norms, as these leaders often hold significant influence within communities and can act as powerful agents of change. By working with these leaders, YNCSD's initiatives can leverage their authority and community standing to promote positive social norms, particularly around issues like violence against women and girls, and other harmful practices.

What can you do?



Ask questions : there's no shame in wanting to know more.



Speak up : if it's not your choice, it's not right



Join us : let's create a world where young people are safe, informed, and heard!

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