Towards Improved Economic and Sexual/Reproductive Health Outcomes for Adolescent Girls (TESFA)

Results in Sexual and Reproductive Health

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Overview of TESFA Program

- 2010 - 2013
- Amhara region of Ethiopia
- Targeted 5,000 ever-married girls, aged 14-19
- Training for girls via 3 ‘arms’
  - Financial training
  - Sexual and Reproductive Health training
  - Combination
- Plus community support and social norms change
Reproductive Context for Ever-Married Girls

Education:
- 87.5% have not completed primary school
- 30.6% have no formal education at all.

Motherhood: 54.4% were already mothers

Choice about Contraceptives:
- 33.3% reported contraceptive decisions were made entirely by someone else (usually their husbands)
- 45% agreed that a woman has no right to ask her husband to use a condom

Contraceptive Knowledge:
- 56.6% reported hearing of any modern method
- 43.5% had no knowledge at all of modern contraception
TESFA Interventions

**Interventions**

1. **Girls’ Peer-Education** through Group meetings
   - Both SRH and EE curriculums included a life skills component

2. **Community Social Analysis and Action group activities**
   Focused on gendered power, the health impact of EM and childbearing, and equitable decision-making within households

**Expected Results**

- Improved knowledge and use of contraceptives
- Improved economic empowerment
- increased intra-couple communication
- Expanded social network
- Lower levels of domestic violence, and improved mental health
Sexual and Reproductive Health Behaviors

Use of Health Services
29% increase in use of health services

Contraception
27% increase in modern contraceptive use

HIV Testing
20% increase in HIV testing

Communication
Large increases in communication and cooperative decision-making with spouse about SRH,
Decreased sexual violence

“This is me taking injection contraceptive. This is after TESFA project. I have one child and I want to wait until my child becomes strong.”
Sexual and Reproductive Health Results

Confident using condoms: 25% (Baseline) to 35% (Endline)
Using modern contraception: 51% (Baseline) to 78% (Endline)
Went to a clinic for contraception: 52% (Baseline) to 81% (Endline)
Went for HIV testing: 51% (Baseline) to 71% (Endline)
Comparing Arms: Visiting a clinic to obtain contraception in the last 6 months
Changes: Gender Equality

Decision making
• Increased couple communication (improved communication and marital relationships mentioned by all interviewed)

Gender Based Violence
• Very significant declines in sexual violence

“This is my husband washing his feet, this used to be my duty but now he is doing it by himself.”
“This is my husband helping me baking injera. Every week when I bake injera he would bake one injera to learn how to do it and he is proud of doing it.”
“My husband can now feed my baby daughter if I am not around.”
“This is my husband helping me fetch water.”
“I am able to travel to market loading grains on animals pack.”
Thank you!

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