



WHAT ARE WE TEACHING OUR CHILDREN?

YOUTH VIEWS OF GENDER INEQUALITIES:
PERCEPTIONS AND SOLUTIONS

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Acknowledgements: HIVOS



- Gender is an undisputed driver of HIV infection
- Masilingane (Let us be equal) project – working with teachers and youth in township contexts to promote awareness of gender inequality and how it contributes to HIV pandemic and help them take action to address it
- Teachers first worked with own constructs of gender and how they impacted on what they teach – Phase 1
- Phase 2: Six schools in poverty-ridden contexts – 3 high schools, 3 primary schools. Teachers first attended workshops on drawing/photovoice.

Phase 2



In this phase of the project, teachers recruited learners to act as peer educators in their schools.

First step: to find out how the youth viewed gender relations in their community.

Asked them to draw their view of gender issues and to explain it in a few words.

3 main messages emerged of what we are teaching our children – women and men are not equal; men can abuse women; and the inequalities exist because of our context (cultural norms/poverty)

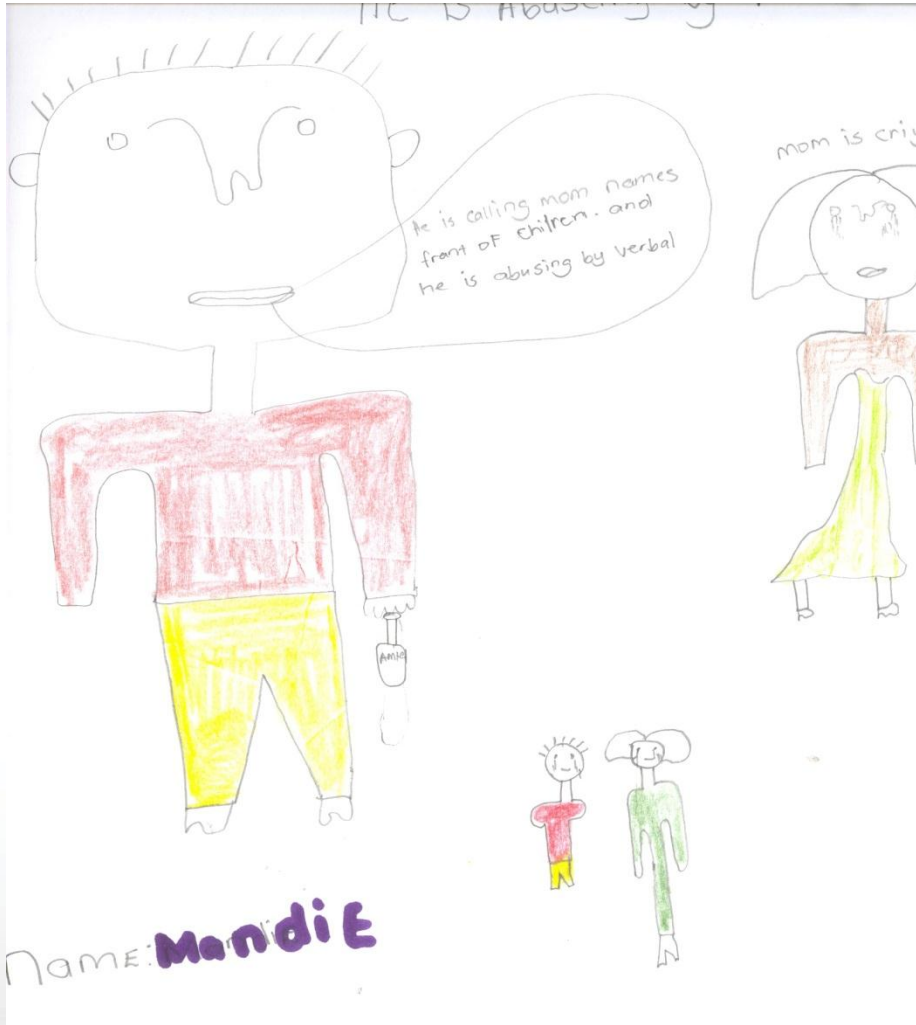


- Participative action research with emancipatory intent; guided by values of respect, integrity, compassion and social justice
- Ethics – attained assent/informed consent from parents where needed; youth volunteered with full knowledge of programme; obtained consent to sue their material for research/education purposes. They received copies of all material produced in format they could use for peer education.

Theme 1: women and men are not equal



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S = MEN INSULTING THE WOMAN'S INTELLIGENCE AND DENYING HER RIGHT TO Gender Equality

H = THE MAN JUST SITTING THERE DRINKING, SHOUTING AT THE WOMAN TO DO AS HE PLEASE

O = IT GIVES US WRONG UNDERSTANDING AND SURELY WILL GROW AND MIS-TREAT OUR WIVES

W = SIMPLY BECAUSE MEN KNOW THEY OVERPOWER WOMEN PHYSICALLY / SUPERIOR GENDER

Theme 1: women and men are not equal



1. I See men and women are not Happy
2. This men are Bulling The women
Because They Thing They are Better and

Theme 1: men and women are not equal



S = we see A women WHOS CRAVING for The MONEY To Buy food.

H = They are FIGHTING ABOUT THE MONEY, Because The MONEY is OWNED BY THE MEN.

O = IT AFFECTS OUR PARENTS A LOT BECAUSE THEY FEEL LIKE THEY ARE DOMESTIC WORKERS, THEY ARE NOT SAPOSE TO OWN THINGS IN HOUSE

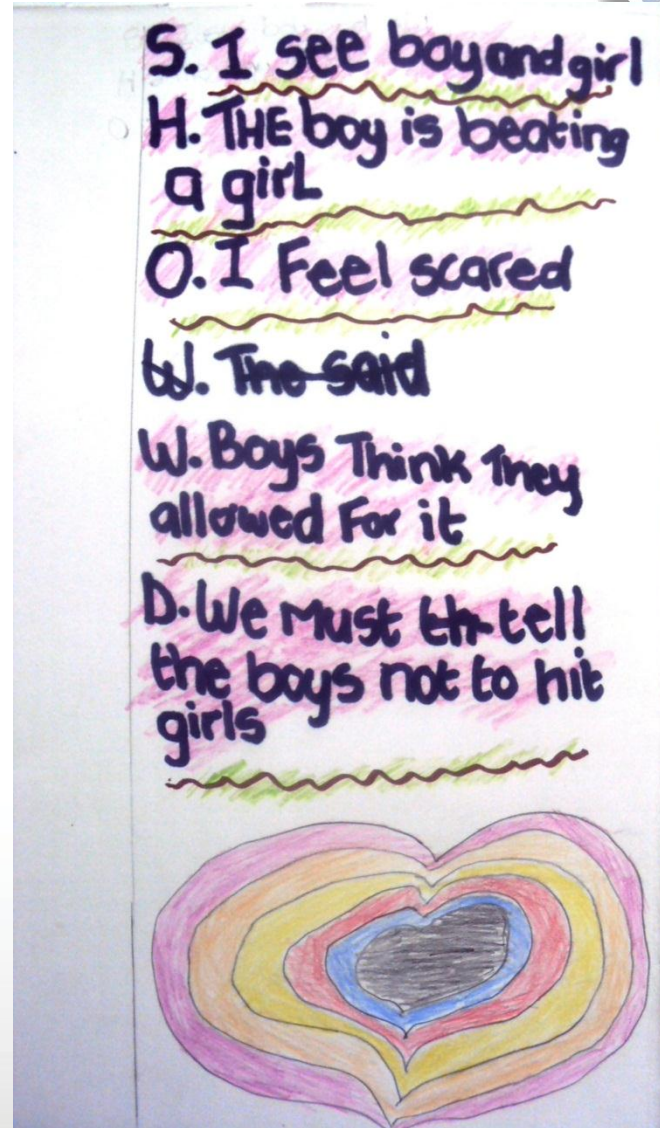
W = BECAUSE MEN, ALWAYS FEEL LIKE THEY ARE THE ONE WHO OWNS EVERY THING.

D = WE CAN TRY TO PLANT VEGTERIAN, & FRUITS, AND SELL IT TO PEOPLE, SO THAT THEY CAN HAVE SOMETHING THAT THEY WILL OWN, BY BUYING THEIR PLANTS & NEEDS

Theme 2: men can abuse women



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Theme 2: men can abuse women



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Theme 2: men can abuse women



S. The male is beating the female

H. The male is abusing the female physically

O. I see this in my community it makes me feel bad.

W. Because the male think when he paid lobola he owns the female

D. I will say to the male he must stop beating the female

Theme 2: men can abuse women

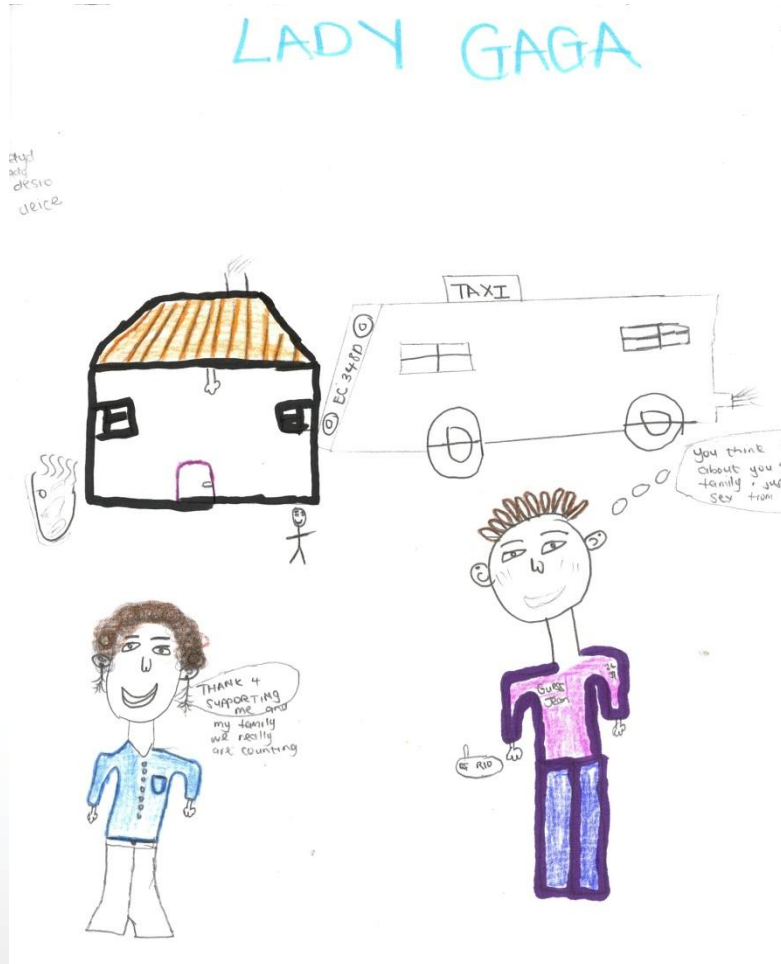


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S=I see the mother & father
H=Really happening is father is
Beating mother
• All so Beating The ^{child} child
O=Of the People
W=Becaus The People affect The
World
D=People do Bring Back a
World

Theme 3: social issues contributes to gender inequalities



S= You see a girl that is visited by her boyfriend AND THIS MAN IS HERE TO GIVE HER THE MONEY.

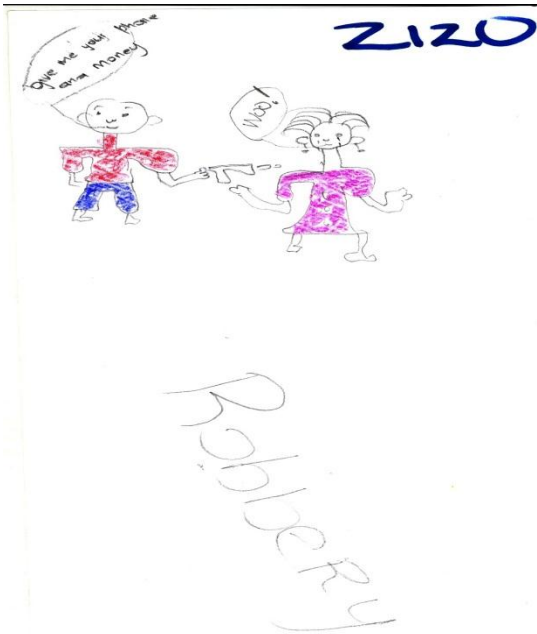
H= This man just want 2 ONLY HAVE SEX WITH THIS GAL. AND HE ALSO WANT 2 INFECT HER WITH HIS VIRUS

O= IT ALSO RELATE TO US THAT SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE A BAD decision, BOOZ WHAT SHE IS DOING ISN'T GONING 2 HELP HER IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

W= THE REASON SHE IS DOING THIS IS BOOZ THAT IN THEIR HOME THEY POOR.

D= WE CAN TRY AND DO POSITIVE THINGS LIKE GOING TO SCHOOL AND GET A WELL EDUCATION IN THEIR LIVES.

Theme 3: social issues contributes to gender inequalities



- S**-A Man pointing the gun ON THE WOMEN.
- H**-This man demanding something that is not his like sell phone money.
- O**-It makes me FEEL UNSAFE and AFRAID the OF MALE
- W**-Lack of Jobs in our country.
- D**-We must create the PROTECT in our Communities so that MEN GET INVOLVED

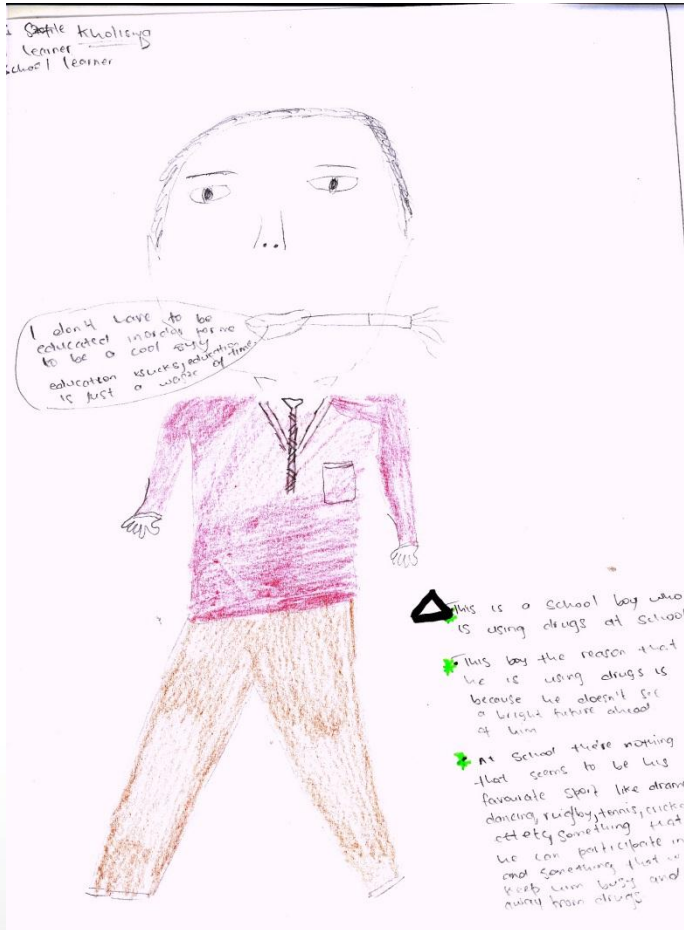
Theme 3: social issues contributes to gender inequalities



S = A young girl is a prostitute.
S = A young girl is selling her body.
H = A girl is selling her body.
O = Young girls leave school and do prostitution.
O = Young girls leave school and do prostitution.
W = When 3 kids were living with their mother & when she died the old girl must look after her younger brother & sister & when there is no money to look after them she turns to prostitution.

D = We must stand together as youth & help one another to fight this. We can help others by going to social workers to get looked after.

Theme 3: social issues contribute to gender inequalities



S = A school boy who is using drugs at school

H = This learner is using drugs just to show his friends that he can do use drugs just like anybody else.

O = This boy the reason that he is using drugs is because he doesn't see a bright future ahead of him

W = At school there is nothing that seems to be his favourite sport like drama, dancing, rugby, tennis, cricket etc something that he can participate in and something that will keep him busy and away from drugs

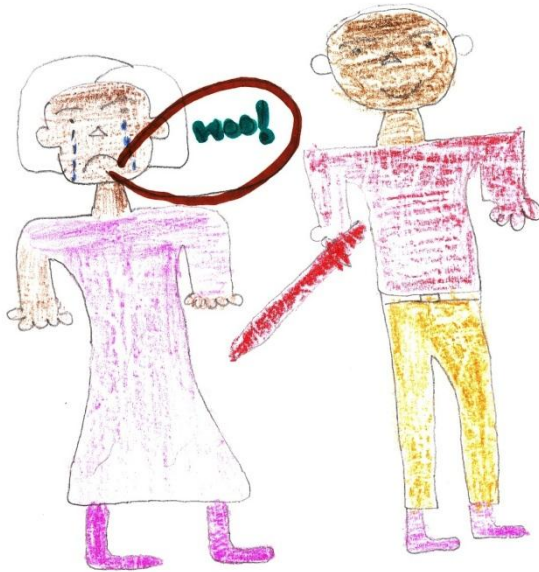
D = To educate others about HIV and the dangers of using drugs and how drugs affect us and that we can do it!!!! And we can do that by educating others and be an example so that they will get on top of what you trying to raise to them.

Theme 3: social issues contribute to gender inequalities



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Minentle" Child Abuse"



- S - The Father is beating up his Daughter
- H - The Father is beating his daughter physical and emotional
- O - It make Children's to Feel Unsafe From the parents
- W - It because the parent's did not get love From they Parents
- D - We must Create project to prevent Child Abuse as youth

So what action can youth take?



LET'S REPAIR THE BROKEN



In Our community gender violence breaks love, breaks family and destroys everything that makes peace, donot let it happen. fight against gender violence so that we can repairs everything that has been destroyed. We can repair the broken love and family.

So what action can youth take?



DONT DESTROY EACH OTHER'S HAPPINESS



IN OUR COMMUNITY MAN AND WOMEN OFTEN DONT WORK -
TOGETHER TO CREATE HAPPY FAMILIES.

MAN OFTEN ERASE THE HAPPINESS THAT WOMEN ARE TRYING -
TO CREATE FOR THE CHILDREN AND OUR FAMILIES.

MAN SHOULD TRY TO MAKE PEACE WITHIN THEIR SOUL.

IF BOTH MALES AND FEMALE COULD RESPECT AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER -
THE WORLD WILL INTIRE CHANGE FOR THE BEST FOR THE CURRENT -
AND FUTURE GENERATION.

REMEMBER THERE'S HOPE AND JOY JUST WAITING FOR US TO REACH IT.
BY WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD THE WORLD TO BE ONE.

So what action can youth take?



RIGHT TO PRIVACY



In our community a major problem is attacking and breaking many families. Men usually feel like they must control their partners by taking their cellphones and robbing women their right to privacy, this affects them (women) emotionally and physically and ending up being/feeling inferior. This is totally wrong because MEN AND WOMEN have a right to PRIVACY.

So what action can youth take?



Equal chances for men and Women



Both man and women can be successful. In my community man are seen as the ones that can be successful and independent. ^{women} They are dependent to man for their financial needs. This picture symbolises that if we all be independent we could have our freedom.

So what action can youth take?



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GENDER VIOLENCE IS LIKE
FIRE, SO LET US STOP IT.

In our community there is a high rate of gender violence. This starts from the early age, girls are taught to behave differently to boys. Boys grew up with the advantage that they are strong to become husbands and be heads of the ~~how~~ family. Gender violence starts there.

We need to stop it by loving each other and extinguish/do away from it so our children can live a better life and their children's children.

Every thing is possible so we can stop it let us love each other; treat each other the same. We can do it if we work together.

B.D

How does this make a difference?



- Youth can use the drawings/photos to start discussions – safe, easier to talk about drawings
- Drawings/photos are relevant to community and their lives
- Drama ideas can emerge from visual artefacts
- Youth are starting to think of ways to address gender issues, next step is to decide on intervention and evaluate – photos are useful starting point for questions – e.g. how can we create a climate of love and respect?