

Unveiling the Influence of Gender Roles in Children's Sexual Education**Suud Sarim Karimullah**

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Abstract: This study highlights the importance of a deep understanding of gender as a key foundation in understanding identity, sexual rights, and the dynamics of healthy interpersonal relationships. Through library research, this study summarizes, evaluates, and integrates previous findings to gain a comprehensive understanding. The results of the study confirmed that sexual education approaches that consider gender roles are able to overcome stereotypes and promote gender equality. Effective sexual education not only expands knowledge but also has a substantial impact on the health and well-being of children. It includes a deeper understanding of sexual health, the ability to make wise decisions in interpersonal relationships, and support for mental health. In addition, the important role of teachers and parents in providing sexual education cannot be underestimated. Teachers help deliver inclusive and accurate sexual education, while parents have a significant role to play in facilitating open communication in the home environment. The involvement of both has a central role in forming a solid foundation for better understanding and a more holistic approach to continuing sexual education.

Keywords: Children's development, gender roles, sex education, sexual rights.

INTRODUCTION

Sexual education for children is a topic that continues to attract attention in the midst of society with all its uniqueness. Although polemics and different views sometimes surround it, it is necessary to recognize that sexual education is an indispensable part of the process of children's development. More than just providing information about the body and reproduction, sexual education helps children understand the complex aspects of their bodies, the dynamics of interpersonal relationships, and the construction of human sexuality. However, on the basis of the discussion about sexual education, one of the dimensions that have great relevance and play a key role is the gender aspect. Gender not only determines the position in how information is conveyed or understood but also forms a fundamental foundation for children's perceptions of identity, social roles, and existing norms in relation to sexuality. Therefore, integrating a deep understanding of gender is crucial in the formulation of a holistic and inclusive approach to children's sexual education.

Gender roles in sexual education are a concept that must be taken seriously (Braeken & Cardinal, 2008). It covers how gender (masculine, feminine, or variations in

between) influences children's teaching, understanding, and acceptance of sexual education materials. This means that not only should it teach children about the biological facts and technical aspects of sexuality, but it should also consider how gender plays a role in how they interpret and respond to this information. For example, gender expectations and traditional stereotypes often play a role in determining how sexual education is delivered and understood by children (Karimullah, 2022; Wingrave, 2018). For example, society usually has different expectations of boys and girls in the context of sexuality (Sugitanata & Karimullah, 2023). Boys may be expected to be more active or explorative, while girls may be expected to be more passive or shy. This can affect how teachers teach and interact with children in the classroom.

Gender roles can also affect how teachers and parents communicate with children about sexual and gender issues (Kollmayer et al., 2018). When discussing the body, menstruation, puberty, or even gender identity, it is essential to consider the role of gender in this communication. Teachers and parents should be sensitive to children's needs and experiences, regardless of gender or gender identity. In addition, inclusive sexual education must recognize diverse gender identities and sexual orientations (Hall et al., 2019; Suen et al., 2020). This is important to create a supportive environment for children who may feel different from generally accepted gender norms. In teaching sexual education, it is essential to understand that gender is not a simple binary concept but rather a complex spectrum, and children should be provided with adequate knowledge and understanding of gender diversity.

To create a compelling and inclusive sexual education, it must continue to consider the role of gender in teaching, curriculum development, and communication with children (Garcia & Fields, 2017; Mukoro, 2021). Not only will this help children understand themselves and others better, but it will also help create a more inclusive society accepting of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Paying attention to gender roles in sexual education can ensure that all children have the knowledge they need to develop healthy, safe, and meaningful relationships and respect gender diversity in society.

The main challenge faced in sexual education for children is to balance providing information appropriate to their age and experience while respecting individual rights and family values. Within this framework, gender roles are vital in curriculum planning

and effective sexual education strategies (Rowe et al., 2018; Wood & Rolleri, 2014). In addition, gender roles in sexual education are also an essential reflection of broader efforts to achieve gender equality.

Sexual education that focuses on a balanced understanding of gender has excellent potential to address gender inequality and promote respect for gender diversity (Elia & Eliason, 2010; N. Haberland & Rogow, 2015; Teelken & Deem, 2013). It can also play an essential role in fighting gender discrimination, uprooting negative stereotypes, and addressing violence stemming from gender differences, the impact of which may affect children's future development.

In today's age of digital information and globalization, children have greater access to information about sexuality through the internet and social media (Eleuteri et al., 2017; Guilamo-Ramos et al., 2015). However, it is essential to recognize that this information is often poorly organized and can be a misguided or damaging resource for children's development. In this context, effective and gender-balanced sexual education is becoming more critical than ever.

Effective sexual education does not only focus on delivering information about anatomy and physical processes related to sexuality to children. More than that, quality sexual education should also introduce values, ethics, and responsibilities that are closely related to sexual relationships and their personal development. This understanding is key for children to deal wisely with their sexual world, avoid the risk of potentially harmful behaviors, and understand the significance of consent and healthy communication in the context of interpersonal relationships.

Not only that, gender roles in sexual education also have great relevance in addressing serious social issues, such as sexual violence, abuse, and child marriage. Understanding how gender affects sexual education can help in designing more effective strategies to prevent and deal with such problems. This includes efforts to remove gender stereotypes that can lead to risky behavior and to promote gender equality in the realm of sexuality. Within the framework of the complexity and urgency of these issues, research on the role of gender in sexual education is becoming increasingly important as a critical part of understanding in depth how gender affects sexual education and its impact on children. Thus, efforts to develop an effective and balanced sexual education from a gender perspective not only become an integral part of the protection of children

but also of the fulfillment of their rights in the face of the rapid flow of change in today's digital information age.

This study can provide a foundation for improvements in teaching more inclusive and gender equality-based sexual education, which in turn can contribute to the well-being and safety of children in the future. Thus, this study is an essential step toward a better understanding how practical and relevant sexual education is for children in this modern era. However, along with the importance of gender roles in sexual education, it is also necessary to recognize that this is a complex and sometimes controversial issue. Society often has mixed views on what should be conveyed to children in sexual education and how it should be conveyed. Cultural norms, religion, family values, and other social factors often influence these views. As a result, there is a risk that gender issues in sexual education may become a source of conflict. Through this study, we hope to help children develop the knowledge and skills they need to make wise decisions about their health and relationships to develop into empowered and loving individuals.

METHOD

This study adopts a library research method that focuses on a comprehensive analysis of the literature. This method allows the researcher to systematically investigate and evaluate the literature related to the topic of study. In the framework of this study, researchers identify and access relevant literature sources, including previous research, scientific articles, books, and other related academic sources. The next step involves a thorough analysis of the literature. The researcher critically evaluates key findings, trends, as well as emerging central concepts, particularly in the context of gender roles in sexual education. An examination of the methodology used in previous studies is also carried out to ensure the validity and accuracy of the results produced.

Applied library research methods with comprehensive literature analysis aim to provide a solid foundation for an in-depth understanding of gender roles in sexual education and their impact on children's development. The results of this analysis are expected to identify areas that require further attention and provide additional insights that can support improvements in the implementation of more effective and inclusive sexual education. All information presented in this study is based on reliable and relevant evidence to achieve the purpose of rigorous academic and scientific research. Data management procedures will ensure the collection, presentation, and

interpretation of information in accordance with strict academic standards and ensure the reliability and validity of the findings presented in this review.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Sexual education is an essential component that aims to provide a healthy and comprehensive understanding of human sexuality (Balter et al., 2021). Within sexual education, gender roles are indispensable in shaping individuals' views and experiences of their sexuality. Gender, a social construct that includes the functions assigned to individuals based on gender, significantly impacts sexual education.

Gender roles can influence an individual's view of their sexuality. Gender stereotypes that have long taken root in society can create different expectations of men and women in the context of sexuality (Karimullah, 2023). This can generate inequalities in the understanding of sexuality and cause women and men to experience other pressures in the face of sexual issues. Sexual education that does not accommodate diverse gender roles can result in a narrow understanding of sexuality and reinforce harmful gender stereotypes.

Gender roles significantly impact an individual's access to sexual education. Across numerous societies, there exist disparities in the accessibility of sexual education influenced by gender. Women, in particular, often encounter substantial obstacles in obtaining quality sexual information, including access to crucial reproductive health services. This challenge stems from prevailing social norms that limit women's access to essential sexual health information and services, resulting in adverse effects on their sexual well-being. Thus, ensuring gender equality in accessing comprehensive and informative sexual education becomes imperative.

Furthermore, gender-based experiences significantly mold an individual's comprehension of sexuality within the framework of sexual education. Different gender identities can lead to distinct encounters with sexual education teachings. Women and men frequently encounter diverse societal pressures, imposing different expectations on them to preserve their dignity within sexual contexts. These pressures can substantially influence how individuals engage with sexual education materials. Consequently, sexual education that acknowledges and integrates gender roles into an individual's

learning experience holds the potential to be more effective in fostering a healthy and nuanced understanding of sexuality.

Gender roles are essential in sexual education, influencing an individual's views, access, and experience of sexuality. To achieve more inclusive and effective sexual education, it is essential to pay attention to gender roles in the planning and implementation of sexual education programs. In this way, it can ensure that all individuals have equal access to the information and understanding necessary to lead a healthy and dignified sexual life without discrimination based on sex.

In addition to influencing individuals' views, access, and experiences, gender roles can impact sexual education teachers and providers. Gender Stigma and social stereotypes can affect how educators understand and teach sexual issues. This can result in inequalities in the delivery of information and views given to students based on gender. Therefore, gender training and awareness for sexual education educators must ensure that the material taught includes a balanced and inclusive perspective.

Gender roles are also relevant in the content of sexual education itself. Sexual education materials should include relevant information for all individuals, regardless of gender (Grose et al., 2014; Shannon & Smith, 2015; Yazid et al., 2023). This involves understanding anatomy, reproduction, interpersonal relationships, sexual rights, and reproductive health. However, this material must be delivered considering gender roles, for example, by recognizing the biological differences between men and women and avoiding reinforcing harmful gender stereotypes.

Despite the importance of understanding gender roles in sexual education, several challenges must be addressed in efforts to organize gender-based inclusive sexual education. Some of these challenges include resistance to more inclusive social change, lack of support from governments or educational institutions, and lack of the resources necessary to implement comprehensive sexual education. However, with the ongoing efforts of all concerned, it is possible to overcome these challenges and ensure that gender-based sexual education is available to all individuals.

All parties involved in sexual education, including educators, students, and parents, need a solid understanding of gender and its impact on sexual education. Gender training organized regularly can help in raising this awareness. Sexual education curricula should also be designed to cover all genders and gender identities. It includes

an understanding of anatomy, interpersonal relationships, reproductive health, and sexual rights relevant to all individuals, regardless of gender or gender identity.

It is essential to provide easily accessible resources that focus on gender-based sexual education. These can be books, guides, websites, or apps that provide accurate and reliable information. Parents have an essential role in the sexual education of their children. Sexual education programs should encourage the involvement of parents in providing appropriate support and information to their children.

Cooperation with community organizations concerned with gender and sexuality can also expand access to quality sexual education. This organization can provide support in the development of inclusive sexual education programs. In addition, sexual education programs need to be periodically evaluated to ensure that they achieve their goals and accommodate changes in understanding and views on gender. Each program must be prepared to make continuous improvements.

Gender roles in sexual education are an essential element that must be considered in efforts to provide inclusive and effective sexual education (Mark et al., 2021; Woolweaver et al., 2023). By understanding how gender roles affect views, access, experience, teaching, and content in sexual education, we can ensure that individuals of all genders and gender identities have equal opportunities to understand and live healthy and dignified sexual lives. The collaborative efforts of communities, governments, educational institutions, and individuals are vital to achieving this goal and addressing gender inequality in sexuality.

Well-integrated gender-based sexual education can have significant positive impacts, such as 1) increased awareness. Individuals will be more aware of their sexual rights, be able to recognize acts of sexual harassment and be able to take appropriate action. 2) improved reproductive health. Good sexual education can help reduce the rate of unwanted teenage pregnancies, the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, and other reproductive health complications. 3) better understanding of relationships. Students will understand how essential healthy relationships, consent, and communication are in intimate relationships. 4) elimination of gender inequality. Through gender-based sexual education, it can address gender inequality in aspects of sexuality, promote equality of rights and responsibilities, and avoid reinforcing harmful gender roles.

Gender-based sexual education is essential to create a more inclusive, equal, and sexually healthy society. Understanding and addressing gender roles in sexual education can help individuals understand and live a more dignified and healthy sexual life. In addition, good sexual education also plays a role in reducing reproductive health risks and addressing gender inequality in sexuality (N. A. Haberland, 2015; Schalet et al., 2014; Suleman et al., 2023). With cooperation between governments, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, and individuals, it is possible to achieve this goal and build a more inclusive and sexually positive cultured society.

Sexual education serves as an educational framework aimed at fostering a healthy and comprehensive comprehension of human sexuality. Its emphasis on children and adolescents is pivotal due to this developmental phase being marked by significant physical, emotional, and social transformations. Within sexual education, the dissemination of knowledge becomes vital to understanding the physiological changes during puberty, the functionality of reproductive organs, and fundamental aspects of human reproduction. For children receiving robust sexual education, a deeper understanding of their bodies emerges, alleviating uncertainties and confusions that often accompany these changes. This precise knowledge lays a foundational cornerstone for maintaining sound sexual health.

One of the critical impacts of sexual education lies in enabling children to recognize and navigate risks linked to unsafe sexual behaviors. Equipping them with knowledge on how to act prudently mitigates the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. Armed with accurate information about condom usage, contraceptive methods, and safeguarding against sexually transmitted infections, children gain the capacity to make informed choices about their sexual health. Moreover, sexual education assumes a pivotal role in cultivating an understanding of consent within sexual relationships, a vital component in curbing instances of sexual abuse and coercion. Children well-versed in proper sexual education are better equipped to identify unauthorized actions and adept at safeguarding themselves.

Inclusive sexual education extends its scope to encompass mental health aspects intertwined with sexuality. This entails an exploration of gender identity, sexual orientation, and potential experiences of discrimination. Armed with a robust understanding of these elements, children are empowered to embrace their identities

comfortably and effectively manage potential stressors and conflicts that may arise in the context of sexual issues. This holistic approach to sexual education allows children to navigate the complexities of sexuality, fostering a more informed and resilient younger generation.

Comprehensive sexual education integrates the various aspects mentioned earlier. It includes information on reproductive biology, sexual health, consent, relationship violence, respect for sexual diversity, and understanding gender issues. A comprehensive approach gives children a more complete picture of human sexuality.

The provision of sexual education to children also faces challenges. Some parents or communities may have different views on sexual education, which can lead to controversy. In addition, educators must ensure that the material presented is appropriate for the age of the children and their culture. Therefore, planning and delivering sensitive and comprehensive sexual education requires careful thought and good collaboration between schools, parents, and communities.

Proper and comprehensive sexual education has a significant impact on the health and well-being of children. It provides the necessary knowledge to avoid health risks such as sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. In addition, sexual education helps promote consent, stress management, and good mental health. While there are challenges in delivering sexual education, the long-term benefits of suitable sexual education for children make it an invaluable investment in a healthier and more sexually informed society. Therefore, comprehensive sexual education must be implemented at all education levels to support children's health and well-being.

Schools have a significant role in providing comprehensive sexual education. They offer a structured environment where sexual education material can be taught systematically and scientifically. Therefore, strong cooperation between schools, teachers, parents, and communities needs to be established to provide effective and targeted sexual education. Sexual education should be delivered considering children's cultural and religious context. Sometimes, cultural and religious norms can influence approaches to sexuality. Therefore, sexual education materials must be adapted to fit cultural and spiritual values while maintaining accurate and essential information about sexual health.

Educators responsible for teaching sexual education must receive adequate training. They need to have a deep understanding of this topic and skills in communicating with children and adolescents on sensitive issues. This training can help them overcome personal discomfort or bias in delivering the material. Effective sexual education involves open communication between children, parents, and teachers. Parents should feel comfortable discussing sexuality with their children and supporting the material taught at school. This allows children to ask questions and seek guidance from reliable sources. In addition, sexual education should be evaluated periodically to ensure that the material taught is adequate and appropriate to the needs of children. By monitoring and assessing sexual education outcomes, schools can refine and update their curricula to reflect the latest scientific developments and changes in children's needs.

Comprehensive sexual education, when properly integrated into the educational curriculum, can positively contribute to children's well-being and development. These include improving sexual health, reducing the risk of risky behavior, promoting an understanding of consent, reducing stigma and gender discrimination, and supporting the development of positive mental health. Sexual education delivered appropriately is culturally and religiously sensitive and promotes open communication between children, parents, and teachers, significantly impacting children's health and well-being. This is an essential part of preparing them to face changes related to sexuality and lead a healthy and dignified life. Therefore, comprehensive and child-focused sexual education is a valuable investment in the future of a sexually wiser and healthier generation.

Sexual education is essential in protecting children from sexual exploitation and abuse. Children who understand their boundaries and rights in relationships can more easily identify unsafe situations. They can also be more confident in reporting sexual harassment or risky situations to adults who can help protect them. Therefore, sexual education plays a crucial role in minimizing the risk of sexual exploitation of children.

In the digital age, children should also be given an understanding of the risks and challenges that arise in the use of technology and social media related to sexuality. Sexual education should include digital literacy, protection of online privacy, and the dangers of online grooming. Children need to be informed about the importance of being

careful about sharing personal information and images online, as well as how to deal with unsafe situations or harassment in a digital environment.

Good sexual education can also promote healthier interpersonal relationships. Children can build more dignified and respectful relationships by understanding the importance of consent, respect for diversity, and communication in relationships. They can avoid risky relationships and identify signs of violence in relationships that should be avoided. Good sexual education also stimulates open questions and discussions. Children who feel comfortable talking about sexuality with their teachers or parents tend to seek information from reliable sources rather than answers from sources that are not guaranteed to be accurate, such as peers or the internet. Open discussion also helps overcome the stigma and shame often associated with sexual issues.

Effective and holistic sexual education profoundly impacts children's health, well-being, and protection (Starrs et al., 2018; Trent et al., 2019). It provides the knowledge necessary to avoid health and safety risks related to sexuality, promote healthy interpersonal relationships, and help protect children from abuse and exploitation. Therefore, sexual education should be considered a children's right and be an integral part of the educational curriculum to support healthy development, positive sexual culture, and proper protection of children around the world.

It is essential to measure the effectiveness of sexual education on the health and well-being of children. This can be done through scientific research examining the impact of sexual education programs on children's knowledge, behavior, and health outcomes. The study's results can be used to evaluate whether the sexual education program has achieved its goals and where improvements may need to be made. In addition, sexual education should also include aspects of protection against sexual harassment and violence. Children need to understand their right to live free from violence and how to report unsafe events. It also involves teaching about the difference between appropriate physical contact and acts of harassment and safe avoidance strategies.

Parents have an essential role in supporting their children's sexual education. They should communicate openly and honestly with their children about sexual issues and encourage them to seek accurate information. Parents also need to support sexual education programs in schools and follow their children's development in their

understanding of sexuality. It is also important to accommodate cultural diversity in sexual education. Every culture has different values, norms, and beliefs about sexuality, and sexual education programs must be adapted to understand and respect those cultures. It also involves recognizing universal reproductive rights but with sensitivity to cultural differences.

Effective sexual education significantly impacts children's mental and emotional health, addresses gender inequality, prevents sexual abuse and violence in relationships, and helps them cope with risks in a digital environment. Inclusive sexual education, which considers gender diversity and sexual orientation, is an essential aspect of education that focuses on the well-being of children. To achieve this, there needs to be cooperation between schools, parents, communities, and governments in developing and implementing sexual education programs that are comprehensive and appropriate to the needs of children. Thus, effective sexual education is essential in creating a sexually wiser and emotionally healthier generation.

Sexual education is essential in forming a healthy understanding of sexuality and interpersonal relationships. To deliver effective sexual education, the role of teachers and parents is crucial. Teachers and parents are responsible for equipping children with the knowledge, values, and skills they need to lead healthy and dignified sexual lives.

Teachers have a leading role in conveying accurate and scientific information about sexuality. They should deeply understand anatomy, reproduction, sexual health, and related issues. In addition, teachers should create a safe and supportive classroom environment where students feel comfortable asking questions and discussing sexual matters. It involves the ability to listen with empathy and give objective answers. Teachers can teach children the importance of healthy communication in relationships, including talking about personal boundaries, consent, and speaking to a partner about their sexual and emotional needs.

Teachers should promote a positive understanding of sexuality, including respect for sexual diversity, gender equality, and sexual rights. Sexual education should be an integral part of the school curriculum. This can include relevant material in biology, health, or civic education lessons. Parents are the first source of information for their children. They should support children in going through the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty and give accurate answers to children's questions.

Parents need to create an environment at home that allows children to feel comfortable talking about sexuality (Karimullah et al., 2023). They should give an open message about the importance of healthy communication in relationships. Parents can serve as models of healthy and dignified sexual behavior. It involves respect for the partner and effective communication in the relationship.

Parents should also monitor their children's use of technology and social media about sexuality. They need to help children understand the risks and impacts of inappropriate online content. In addition, parents should guide their children to understand and apply positive values about sexuality, such as respect for gender diversity and sexual rights.

Effective sexual education requires strong cooperation between teachers and parents. Teachers can provide accurate and in-depth information at school, while parents can continue discussions and education at home. Open communication between teachers and parents allows them to monitor children's progress in understanding and dealing with sexual issues. Although the role of teachers and parents in sexual education is vital, some challenges may be faced. These include differences in personal values and beliefs and difficulties in addressing issues that are often considered taboo or sensitive. Therefore, proper teacher training and support from schools and government agencies must be needed to ensure effective sexual education.

The role of teachers and parents in the sexual education of children is critical to creating a healthy understanding of sexuality and interpersonal relationships. Teachers provide accurate and in-depth knowledge at school, while parents provide support and guidance at home. With strong cooperation between the two parties, we can help children develop a positive understanding and good health related to sexuality. This is a valuable investment in the future of a sexually wiser and emotionally healthier generation.

Good cooperation between teachers and parents in sexual education is critical to providing consistent and balanced messages to children. Good coordination ensures that children not only hear information about sexuality from various possibly conflicting sources but also feel supported by both parties they trust. In many cases, an imbalance in sexual education can negatively impact children, causing confusion and uncertainty.

Teachers and parents should never forget that each child is a unique individual. Therefore, sexual education must be delivered inclusively and sensitively to the child's needs. This includes recognizing and respecting gender diversity, sexual orientation, and sexual identity. It is essential to approach each child with the understanding that they may have different questions, concerns, or experiences. In addition, parents and teachers should also build relationships based on open and unpunished communication in the context of sexual education. Children should feel comfortable asking questions and voicing their concerns without fear of punishment or negative judgment. This helps create a climate where children feel supported in exploring and understanding their sexuality.

Effective sexual education should include understanding reproductive rights and the importance of consent in relationships. Children need to know their right to decide about their bodies, including contraceptive use and decision-making about their sexual activity. Sexual education should also emphasize that consent is key in any sexual relationship and that pressure or coercion is unacceptable (de Heer et al., 2021; Jeffrey, 2022). When teachers and parents talk about sexual education, they should consider the age of the children. The material taught must be adapted to children's physical and emotional development. In this case, teachers and parents can refer to guidelines or curricula approved nationally or locally.

Effective sexual education requires strong cooperation between teachers and parents. Teachers provide knowledge and guidance in the school environment, while parents provide support, open communication, and positive values at home. With a coordinated, inclusive, and sensitive approach to children's needs, we can help children develop a healthy understanding of sexuality and interpersonal relationships, which are fundamental to positive development and good health. Thus, the role of teachers and parents in sexual education is critical to forming a sexually wiser and emotionally healthier generation.

Although the role of teachers and parents in the sexual education of children is vital, some challenges need to be overcome. First, the challenge of values and culture. Teachers and parents may have different values or beliefs about sexuality. The solution is to adopt an open approach to discussion, seek common ground, and respect differences in values. Secondly, discomfort and worries. Teachers and parents may feel

uncomfortable or anxious talking about sexuality. Adequate training for teachers, support from the school community, and outside resources, such as counselors or sexual education specialists, can help with this discomfort. Third, limited knowledge. Not all teachers have adequate knowledge about sexuality issues. The solution is to provide teachers with the necessary training and resources to feel more confident in providing comprehensive sexual education. Fourth, difficulties in communicating with children. Talking about sexuality with children can be a challenging task. Parents and teachers must develop practical communication skills, listen with empathy, and respond honestly and age-appropriate to children's questions.

Measuring the effectiveness of sexual education is crucial to ensure that the message conveyed by teachers and parents achieves its objectives. These measurements can include 1) knowledge. Evaluate children's understanding of sexual issues, such as reproductive biology, sexual health, and reproductive rights. 2) behavior. Observing children's behaviors related to sexual health, such as condom or contraceptive use, wise decision-making in relationships, and risky behaviors. 3) emotional well-being. Evaluate children's emotional well-being, including stress levels, depression, or positive feelings related to relationships. 4) communication skills. Examine children's ability to communicate openly and healthily about sexuality and relationships. 5) record of success. Track data such as declining teen pregnancy rates, the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, or incidents of child sexual abuse as indicators of success.

The involvement of teachers and parents in children's sexual education plays a pivotal role in sculpting a generation equipped with a wholesome and affirmative comprehension of sexuality and interpersonal relationships. By fostering robust collaboration, fostering open lines of communication, and adopting an inclusive approach, teachers and parents jointly become catalysts in aiding children to surmount obstacles, access precise information, and cultivate the values and competencies essential for leading a dignified and healthy sexual life. Consequently, this role assumes paramount importance not only in shaping the trajectory of children's futures but also in cultivating a society that is more informed, emotionally resilient, and attuned to the nuances of sexual well-being.

CONCLUSION

The importance of integrating gender-sensitive approaches in sexual education is key in countering harmful gender stereotypes and in promoting gender equality. This approach has a significant positive impact on the health and well-being of children. Children who receive comprehensive sexual education tend to have a broader understanding of Sexual Health, understand the importance of consent in relationships, and have a fuller understanding of their rights. The role of sexual education should also not be overlooked in supporting the mental and emotional health aspects of children. Through a better sense of their identity and well-being in the context of sexuality, sexual education can contribute directly to the emotional well-being of children. No less important is the role of teachers and parents in providing sexual education to children. They have a crucial role in providing appropriate, inclusive, and gender-sensitive sexual education in the school environment. Teachers and parents are also responsible for creating an environment that supports open questioning and open discussion of sexual issues. On the other hand, parents should also serve as a consistent source of information and support in the sexual education of children. Open communication that is free from fear of punishment at home can provide space for children to feel comfortable talking about the sexual issues they face. The synergy between the roles of teachers and parents is key in providing a solid foundation for holistic sexual education of children and supporting healthy development.

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