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Innocenti Research Digest Adolescence

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A quarterly research digest highlighting the most important news and resources in adolescent well-being over the past three months.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Intersectional forms of inequality affect children's health. The contribution of *The Lancet Series on Gender Equality, Norms and Health*.

Gender inequality is harmful to the health of both children and adults. Evidence for this comes from [The Lancet Series on Gender Equality, Norms, and Health](#), a collaborative effort of 75 authors from 41 institutions, working across five continents. The Series examines how inequitable gender norms affect people's health, presenting the findings in five theoretically and empirically rich papers.

The [first paper](#) introduces the series. It provides accessible language and theories related to gender norms and health. It offers a thorough review of

fundamental concepts in gender theory, culminating in a conceptual framework that describes the processes and dynamics through which, after birth, people develop into gendered beings. Two key pieces of the conceptual puzzle are: 1) the difference between gender and sex, and 2) the difference between gender identity and gender norms. While 'sex' refers to one person's biological status as male, female or intersex, 'gender' is a social construct, which refers to the culturally defined roles and responsibilities associated with being perceived as either a woman or a man. Gender norms are the unwritten rules of acceptable behaviour for men, women and gender minorities. They are the glue that holds a gender system (whether patriarchal or not) together. Conversely, gender identity is one's individual feelings of being a woman or a man, or another gender.



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Victor Fernando, 17, stands by the window in his home in Vilanueva, Honduras. He was bullied at school about his sexual orientation. "I feel alone, weak and vulnerable. My grades went down, and I lost a year of school," he says (2018).



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Bongani Ngqame holds his son, Khuma, 8 months, on a street near his office, Cape Town, South Africa. Before Khuma was born, Bongani participated in the UNICEF-supported MenCare programme, implemented by Sonke Gender Justice, which aims to promote men's involvement as equitable, non-violent fathers and caregivers and achieve family well-being, gender equality and better health for mothers, fathers and children (2019).

The [second paper](#) provides empirical evidence of the harmful effect of inequitable gender norms on people's health. It presents six case studies, most of which uncover the effect of gender norms on children's and adolescents' health. The six case studies, respectively looked at: gender differential in child medical care in Ethiopia; adolescent unhealthy weight loss in South Africa; adolescents' mental health and body dissatisfaction in Brazil; correlation between adolescents' gender non-conformity in schools and increased risks of negative health behaviours; adolescents' HIV status; and, domestic violence against girls who work outside the household in Nigeria.

[Paper three](#) in the series identifies policies and programmes that are gender transformative. The authors found that effective interventions explicitly focused on transforming restrictive gender norms and increasing equal opportunities across sexes and genders (such as lowering economic barriers to education).

[Paper four](#) describes restrictive gender norms in health systems. It finds that existing health systems are gendered in their construction (e.g. men cure and women care), neglect gender inequalities in health and are rarely gender responsive.

The [fifth and last paper](#) in the series offers a call to action. The authors highlight the importance of acknowledging that: 1) gender norms can be either protective or harmful; 2) gender norms can be changed; and 3) gender norms can be measured. However, persistent barriers to progress exist as a result of: 1) gender biases in health systems; 2) inadequate response by national governments and health institutions; 3) gaps and biases in quantitative data and health research; and 4) shrinking space and restricted funding for civil society action.

The series focuses on gender, but recognizes that gender cannot be used as a single analytical category. Other intersecting forms of disadvantage such as poverty and racial discrimination affect children's lives. Our collective efforts to help children and their families should strive to address these material inequities. Yet, our efforts should go beyond solely addressing material disadvantages. We must increase our understanding of how people can take care of each other (especially in the context of great material deprivation) in ways that make children feel loved, safe, protected and free to learn and explore their world. By so doing, we will be able to further improve the lives of the world's children.

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LATEST RESEARCH

GENDER NORMS

[The Lancet Series on Gender Equality, Norms, and Health](#)

The Lancet, May 2019

The systemic neglect of gender norms and inequalities in programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation can undermine the health of women and girls, boys and men, and gender minorities. This special issue of *The Lancet* aims to inform the global health community of the critical need, and effective actions, to recognize and transform restrictive gender norms and their intersections with other social inequalities—including those related to age, race/ethnicity, religion and socio-economic status. The series includes [insights from global survey data](#), programmatic and policy approaches to [improve health and reduce gender inequality](#) and mechanisms to [disrupt restrictive gender norms in health systems](#).

[Download articles \[free registration required\]](#)

[Special issue – Advancing social norms practice for adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health: The why and the how](#)

Journal of Adolescent Health (JAH), April 2019

Normative change and adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health (AYSRH) are the focus of the latest JAH collection developed by the [Learning Collaborative to advance normative change](#).

The special issue introduces a new [conceptual framework](#) for addressing social norms in AYSRH, specific approaches to improve [social norms measurement](#) and an examination of the evidence on [scaling-up normative change interventions](#) for adolescent reproductive health. Case studies highlight methodologies for the measurement of social norms regarding [child marriage in Malawi](#); scales to assess [girls' agency](#) in relation to sexual and reproductive rights in Ethiopia; and participatory visual methods to identify gender norms associated with [transactional sex for adolescent girls in Uganda](#).

[Download articles \[pdf\]](#)

[Social norms and beliefs about gender-based violence scale: A measure for use with gender-based violence prevention programs in low-resource and humanitarian settings](#)

Perry N. et al., *Conflict and Health*, March 2019

The 'Social Norms and Beliefs about Gender-Based Violence Scale' was developed to evaluate the impact of gender-based violence (GBV) prevention programmes in Somalia and South Sudan. The scale assesses harmful social norms that sustain GBV, including personal beliefs about women's sexual purity, protecting family honour over women's safety, and men's authority to discipline women and children. This rapid measure is shown to be reliable to assess change in social norms that maintain and tolerate sexual violence against women and girls in low resource and complex humanitarian settings.

[Download article](#)

EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

[Progress of the World's Women 2019–2020: Families in a Changing World](#)

UN Women, March 2019

Families can be 'make or break' for girls when it comes to achieving their rights. They can be places of love and fulfilment but, too often, they are also places where women's and girls' rights are violated and where gender inequality prevails. This UN Women's flagship report assesses key issues such as family laws, employment, unpaid care work, and violence against women through the analysis of global, regional and national data. It proposes comprehensive family-friendly policy packages to advance gender equality in diverse countries and provides related costing analyses.

[Download the full report \[pdf\]](#); and [executive summary](#)

[Back to School: Pathways for Reengagement of Out-of-School Youth in Education](#)

Rajasekaran, S and Reyes, J., World Bank, May 2019

Globally, more than 260 million children and youth aged 6 to 17 years are out of school. Of these, more than 150 million live in fragile and conflict-affected countries. This study reviews evidence on what works for re-engaging out-of-school, at-risk youth in education. It identifies risk factors and advocates for an integrative youth development strategy, combining 'protection' (minimizing the risks) and 'promotion' (strengthening assets and resources). The study recommends mentoring and psychosocial support as core interventions contributing to positive re-engagement, as well as an adaptive and context-specific programme design approach.

[Download report \[pdf\]](#)



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Mohammed, 12, has been living in Banki, Nigeria for the past two years, after his village was attacked by an armed group. "They destroyed everything we worked on, even our books. One of my teachers was killed," he says. Mohammed is now back in school, which was rebuilt with UNICEF support and designed with security and improved support for children in mind (2019).

[Enabling women's economic empowerment. New approaches to unpaid care work in developing countries](#)

OECD, June 2019

Women's and girls' unequal share of unpaid care work can prevent their full participation in the economies of developing countries. As part of the OECD Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment, this report focuses on identifying what works to address unpaid care work and sheds light on how governments, donors in the private sector and civil society can design policies to support both those who need care and those who

provide care. The report brings together existing knowledge of policy options for unpaid care work across regions, in four policy areas: infrastructure, social protection, public services, and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household.

[Download report \[pdf\]](#)

SOCIAL PROTECTION

[Long-Term Impacts of Conditional Cash Transfers: Review of the Evidence](#)

Millan, T. et al., *The World Bank Research Observer*, May 2019

This review examines experimental and non-experimental evidence on the long-term effects of Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programmes on youth in Latin America. Most studies find positive long-term effects on boys and girls schooling, but fewer find positive impacts on cognitive skills, learning or socio-emotional skills. Impacts on employment and earnings are mixed, possibly because former beneficiaries were often still too young. Developing further opportunities for analyses as beneficiaries age is recommended to assess the sustainability of poverty reduction initiatives in the region.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)

[Cash Transfers, Young Women's Economic Well-being, and HIV Risk: Evidence from HPTN 068](#)

Kilburn, K. et al., *AIDS and Behavior*, May 2019

Based on an evaluation of a CCT programme in South Africa through a randomized controlled trial, this paper examines whether increasing adolescent girls' economic resources reduces their risk of HIV – testing the hypothesis that tackling economic precarity lowers girls' incentive to engage in transactional relationships in which men dominate sexual decision-making. A mediation analysis confirms that the beneficial effects of CCT are partly channelled through increased income. Thus, the paper reinforces the case for including economic-strengthening initiatives as part of HIV reduction strategies and calls for targeting the poorest girls and young women.

[Not open access, available on request.](#)

[Social protection and adolescent capabilities: What does a gender norms lens add to the debate?](#)

Jones, N. and Presler-Marshall, E., *Advanced Learning and Innovation on Gender Norms (ALIGN)*, April 2019

This rapid review assesses the evidence base on how cash transfers can improve adolescent outcomes and shift social norms. Cash transfers are shown to improve a wide range of adolescent outcomes, especially with regards to education. However, evidence of the impact of cash alone – or in combination with other measures – on adolescent outcomes is scarce, possibly due to the shortage of age- and sex-disaggregated data. Furthermore, available evidence suggests that cash does not usually challenge harmful or discriminatory social norms and may even reinforce some of these. An integrated cash-plus approach that focuses directly on age- and gender-related needs is required for more transformative change.

[Download paper \[pdf\]](#)

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

[Contraception in Adolescence: The Influence of Parity and Marital Status on Contraceptive Use in 73 Low- and Middle-income Countries](#)

de Vargas Nunes Coll, C. et al., *Reproductive Health*, February 2019

Analysis of data from 73 low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) reveals large unmet



© UNICEF/UN0311030/DSCF0265
Ms. Yea (35) gets her contraceptive injection during a health outreach session supported by UNICEF in Phorsen village, Saravan province, Lao PDR (2019).

needs of adolescents around contraception and family planning. Married adolescents aged 15-19 without children have the lowest prevalence of contraceptive use, compared to adolescents who are married with children or not married. Social norms regarding marriage and fertility play an important role in shaping uptake of modern contraception, with young women often expected to give birth to at least one child before using contraceptives. Findings suggest that interventions should consider the negative impact of social norms on contraceptive behaviour of female adolescents, particularly in conservative settings. Evidence-based approaches include community-based multicomponent programmes, with elements of counselling and life skills training of young women, family and community members, as well as capacity building of health workers.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)

[Suicidal Ideation, Suicide Planning, and Suicide Attempts among Adolescents in 59 Low-income and Middle-income Countries: A Population-based Study](#)

Uddin, R. et al., *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*, April 2019

This paper provides new evidence about suicidal ideation, suicide planning and suicide attempts in 59 LMICs. Based on data from the Global School-based Student Health Survey of school children aged 13-17 in 59 LMICs, the study reveals that 17 per cent of adolescents have had suicidal thoughts or have planned or attempted suicide during the 12 months prior to the interview. Prevalence rates are lowest in Southeast Asia and highest in the African and western Pacific regions. Suicidal thoughts and behaviour are particularly high among girls and among adolescents aged 15-17. Given the significant variation between countries, the authors recommend that suicide prevention interventions should identify at-risk groups and then develop context-sensitive strategies to support them.

[Not open access – available on demand](#)



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Vimala Vade (52), a community health worker, checks the weight of 7-months pregnant Bhavna Gameti in Sisarma Village, Rajasthan, India (2019).

[Social, Biological, and Programmatic Factors Linking Adolescent Pregnancy and Early Childhood Undernutrition: A Path Analysis of India's 2016 National Family and Health Survey](#)

Nguyen, P. et al., *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*, May 2019

Drawing on cross-sectional nationally representative data from over 60,000 mother-child pairs in India, this study analyses the association between adolescent pregnancy and child nutrition. Data show that children born to adolescent mothers are more likely to be undernourished and stunted than children of adult mothers. Moreover, adolescent mothers are shorter, more likely to be underweight and anaemic, less likely to access health services and have poorer complementary feeding practices. They have also received less education, have less bargaining power and are more likely to live in lower-income households with poorer sanitation. Policy recommendations to end early marriage, delay pregnancy and address child undernutrition include cash transfers, access to education, and complementary programming in the area of sexual and reproductive health.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)

PROTECTION IN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

[Child Marriage among Boys: A Global Overview of Available Data](#)

Murray C.G., et al., *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*, May 2019

The practice of child marriage has been well studied among girls, but there has been little information to date about child marriage among boys. Just released, this first-ever analysis on child grooms shows that an estimated 115 million boys and men around the world were married as children. Of these, one in five children, or 23 million, were married before the age of 15. This article draws on an analysis of all nationally representative and internationally comparable data on the prevalence of child marriage among boys. Such data have become available for 82 countries within the past 10 years, representing 51 per cent of the global population of men. Further [data-driven analysis on child marriage](#) is available on the UNICEF website.

[Not open access – available on request](#)

[Sex Trade Among Youth: A Global Review of the Prevalence, Contexts and Correlates of Transactional Sex Among the General Population of Youth](#)

Krisch, M. et al., *Adolescent Research Review*, February 2019

This global review explores trends of transactional sex among male and female youth across 28 countries. Findings show that rates of buying and selling sex vary from 10 per cent in high-income countries to over 60 per cent in LMICs. Girls are more likely than boys to sell sex in LMICs, while the opposite is true in high-income countries. The average onset age is 15 years, with initial contact established through friends, acquaintances and dating websites. Selling sex is associated with other risky sexual behaviours, substance use, sexually transmitted diseases, mental health problems, family break-up and a history of victimization. Buying sex is linked with substance use, violence perpetration and higher socio-economic status. The authors recommend a greater focus on longitudinal predictors of transactional sex, and its long-term impacts on adolescent well-being.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)



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Yuki (NAME CHANGED), 16, washes clothes in the UNICEF-assisted shelter run by the Department of Social Welfare and Development's Regional Haven for Children, where she now lives in the province of Cebu, Visayas Region, The Philippines, having suffered domestic sexual abuse at age six and later being forced into prostitution (2011).

[The Effects of Conflict and Displacement on Violence against Adolescent Girls in South Sudan: the Case of Adolescent Girls in the Protection of Civilian Sites in Juba](#)

Murphy, M. et al., *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters*, May 2019

Exposure to armed conflict increased adolescent girls' probability of experiencing sexual violence



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Ferdos, 15, six months after she was reunited with her mother in Malakal, South Sudan. Her mother, Khamisa, was collecting firewood when fighting broke out in Malakal in 2013. This marked the beginning of almost five years of separation. In 2018, UNICEF and partners were able to trace Khamisa based on the information the children gave and shortly after the family was reunited just a few weeks before Ferdos became a mother herself.

by up to seven times in South Sudan, where sexual violence was used as a tactic of war during the 2013 crisis. Girls reported ongoing threats of sexual violence even after the acute conflict passed. Quantitative and qualitative data show that patriarchal practices, compounded by poverty and unequal power relationships within the home, remain some of the primary drivers of violence against women and girls (VAWG) both in conflict-affected and non-conflict settings. Prevention activities need to consider these wider underlying drivers of VAWG during and after times of armed conflict, as they remain key factors affecting violence against adolescent girls.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)

["Juvenicidio Armado": Homicidios de Jóvenes y Armas de Fuego en América Latina \["Armed Juvenicide": Youth Homicides and Firearms in Latin America\] \[Spanish\]](#)

Otamendi, M. et al., *Salud Colectiva*, March 2019

Male adolescents are at highest risk of firearms homicide in Latin America, especially in Brazil, Panama, Venezuela and Uruguay. In 2014, 80 per cent of adolescent homicides in the region involved firearms, with 94 per cent of the victims being male. Female firearm homicides are mainly related to domestic and gender-based violence. Authors suggest that preventive policies should avoid stigmatizing adolescents and focus on the root causes of youth gun violence, such as poverty, poor education and political instability.

[Download article \[pdf\]](#)

RESOURCES

[Gender and Power Metrics](#)

The Population Council has published an open access catalogue of gender and power metrics for researchers and programme staff in the health, social and behavioural sciences. The database has over 600 unique scales that have been used to measure gender, agency, power and control.

[ALiGN Guide on Gender Norms and Masculinities](#)

What factors influence gender norms and what positive steps can help initiate change? The Advanced Learning and Innovation on Gender Norms (ALiGN) platform has launched a thematic guide bringing together evidence, [measurements](#), [lessons learned](#) and [programme toolkits](#) to unpack the factors that lead to change in norms around masculinities.

[Gender Norms and Youth-friendly Sexual and Reproductive Health Services](#)

ALiGN has also produced an annotated bibliography on how gender norms influence access, design and uptake of youth-friendly health services in LMICs. The electronic databases searched were PubMed, Web of Science, Medline, JSTOR, HeinOnline, Social Science Research Network and Google Scholar.

[New UNICEF Country and Regional Data on Child Marriage](#)

UNICEF has released four statistical snapshots with the latest country and regional data on child marriage. The snapshots include current levels, trends and projections to 2030 in the [Middle East and North Africa](#) and [Africa](#). Find here global UNICEF [datasets on child marriage](#).

[UNDP report on Preventing and Responding to Youth Violent Extremism](#)

Developed by the United Nations Development Programme, this report identifies challenges and opportunities for youth-focused policy and programming on preventing violent extremism (PVE). Based on a global survey of 184 practitioners, and field case studies in Yemen, Pakistan and Kosovo, the report highlights the untapped potential of young people in PVE.

[Ethical Considerations in Research on Sexual Exploitation Involving Children](#)

This ECPAT guidance paper unpacks some of the critical ethical considerations for research on sexual exploitation that involves children. For example, when to undertake this type of research, whether to directly involve children, and what issues can arise during the implementation of research on sexual exploitation with children.

[Strong Girls Make Strong Women: A Practical Handbook to Creating and Leading a Girls' Club](#)

This handbook for running girls' clubs was developed in partnership with the WomenStrong International consortium members in Ghana, Kenya, India and Haiti. It includes a guide to setting up a girls' club, as well as best practices and a life skills curriculum.

[Measuring Girls' Empowerment with Participatory Approaches](#)

This paper from KIT Royal Tropical Institute provides guidance on the use of participatory approaches for practitioners working on the measurement of empowerment of women and girls in development programmes.

[How Evidence Supported Policy Advocacy in Malawi](#)

This 3ie brief reports how evidence was used for policy advocacy to inform changes in the design of the Malawi Social Cash Transfer Programme and its eventual scale-up across all districts in Malawi. Impact evaluations addressed policymakers' scepticism regarding use of cash transfers by providing relevant evidence of the impact on children's and caregivers' well-being.

[Transfer Project's New Multimedia Website](#)

New videos, infographics and presentations on social protection and cash transfer research are available at the Transfer Project's new multimedia website. The Transfer Project is a multi-country cash transfer research initiative in sub-Saharan Africa.

[The Girl Roster™](#)

The Population Council developed the Girl Roster™, a tool designed to help practitioners understand their community and elicit foundational information to intentionally link girls – especially the most marginalized adolescent girls – to the vital resources, facilities and services to which they are entitled but often have limited or no access to.

[Strengthening Capacity to Prevent HIV among Adolescent Girls and Young Women](#)

This Population Council brief shares the tools used for its girl-centred programming in five countries – Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Haiti, Namibia and Rwanda. The brief emphasizes the importance of tailored participatory activities such as community mapping, as well as the Girl Roster™ tool.

[Cash Transfers Conditional on Schooling Reduce Intimate Partner Violence among Young Women in South Africa](#)

This case study summarizes the impact of a CCT programme targeted to girls aged 13–20 in South Africa. Produced by the Cash Transfer and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Research Collaborative, the brief notes there was a 34 per cent reduction in physical IPV.

[Preventing Intimate Partner Violence among Young People: The Role of Comprehensive Sexuality Education \(CSE\)](#)

This briefing paper features the results from a longitudinal quasi-experimental study of a CSE intervention with students aged 14–17 in Mexico. Run by Fundación Mexicana para la Planeación Familiar (Mexfam), the 20-hour curriculum led to significant shifts in attitudes.

NEWS

On 29 and 30 April, CARE and UNWomen convened a workshop in Washington DC on behalf of the gender and cash sub-workstream of the Grand Bargain on the [potential of Cash and Voucher Assistance \(CVA\) to empower women and reduce violence](#). Recommendations on gender and CVA included: encouraging 'gender mainstreaming' across the [CVA] programme cycle; recruiting donor 'champions'; and strengthening linkages with social protection and recovery/development programmes. See [workshop report](#) for full recommendations and links to presentations.

On 19 and 20 June 2019, Member States of the African Union gathered in Cairo, Egypt, for a regional conference on [eliminating child marriage and female genital mutilation](#). Organized by the Arab Republic of Egypt and the African Union with the support of the European Union, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and Plan International, the conference led to a call

to action for the elimination of child marriage and female genital mutilation in Africa, by reaffirming commitments and supporting Governments, institutions and communities through a variety of actions to end these practices across the continent.

In May 2019, the governments of El Salvador and Honduras launched [Violence Against Children and Youth Survey \(VACS\)](#) reports, the first VACS to be published in Latin America. VACS are nationally representative household surveys of males and females aged 13–24. Both the [El Salvador report](#) (in Spanish) and the [Honduras report](#) (in Spanish) reveal high rates of sexual and physical violence experienced by both girls and boys, as well as new findings on the intersections with migration.

In May, UNICEF Brazil released [Proteja Brasil](#), a free phone app that allows citizens to report rights' violations against children, adolescents and other vulnerable groups to the Brazilian Federal Government. The app provides directions to find the nearest local protection services and information about the types of rights' violations of vulnerable groups, including sexual exploitation and abuse, bullying, physical and psychological violence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[UNICEF Innocenti Film Festival and competition](#)

The [UNICEF Innocenti Film Festival](#) will be held in Florence to commemorate three anniversaries of global significance: the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the 30th anniversary of the opening of the UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti; and the 600th anniversary of the founding of the Ospedale Degli Innocenti, UNICEF Innocenti's host organization partner. Films selected for the festival will promote deep reflection on narratives of childhood and the experiences that shape them – as individuals, in the family, in the community, and as members of institutions and societies – with emphasis on young artists and the Global South.

Date: 25–27 October 2019

Location: Florence, Italy

[Deadline for submission: 31 July](#)

[African Child Trauma Conference](#)

Themes for this year's conference include preventing and responding to child abuse, violence and neglect in Africa, including intergenerational trauma, armed conflict, children marginalized by disabilities, and children affected by sexual violence.

Organizers: UNICEF, Children's Institute, Jelly Bean, International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Centre for Child Law, Teddy Bear Foundation, Childline, Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention, Matla a Bana, Dullah Omar Institute

Date: 19–21 August 2019

Location: Cape Town, South Africa

[Registration](#)

[International Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators](#)

The conference theme is 'Children of the World: The Touch of Change. Theories, Policies and Practices'. Participants will discuss developing and using indicators to improve child well-being.

Organizer: International Society for Child Indicators (ISCI)

Date: 27–29 August 2019

Location: Tartu, Estonia

[Registration](#)

[Promoting social, economic and socio-political development through social protection](#)

The PEGNet conference 2019 will provide a platform for high level policy dialogue on the determinants, elements, impacts and linkages of effective social protection schemes.

Organizer: PEGNet and The University of Bonn.

Date: 9–10 September 2019

Location: Bonn, Germany

[Registration](#)

[Behavioural Exchange Conference \(BX2019\)](#)

Policymakers, academics and practitioners will explore new frontiers in behavioural science. Panels include education, violence and sexual harassment, health incentives, and children, young people and families.

Organizers: The Behavioural Insights Team

Date: 5–6 September 2019

Location: London, UK

[Registration](#)

COURSES

[Cash Transfer Programming](#)

This online course provides an introduction to cash and voucher assistance, including key definitions and principles for good practice. It will explain the different delivery mechanisms and tools, as well as preconditions for implementing cash and voucher assistance. The course will also introduce the key steps involved in cash transfer programming in humanitarian settings.

Organizer: The Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP)

Date: Available now

Location: Online

[Registration](#)

UNITED NATIONS YOUTH-DEDICATED DAYS AND EVENTS

11 July is [World Population Day](#), which seeks to raise awareness of global population issues. 15 July is [World Youth Skills Day](#), which highlights the importance of technical, vocational education and training and the development of other skills for young people. 30 July is [World Day against Trafficking in Persons](#). 12 August is [International Youth Day](#), which focuses this year on 'transforming education' to make education more inclusive and accessible for all youth. Adolescent-related UN actions and useful resources can be consulted on the respective websites.

ADDITIONAL READING

Other interesting readings selected by our team
(* = not open access).

- Abramo, L. et al., [Programas Sociales, Superación de la Pobreza e Inclusión Laboral Aprendizajes Desde América Latina y el Caribe](#) [Social Programmes, Overcoming Poverty and Labour Inclusion: Lessons from Latin America and the Caribbean], Libros de la CEPAL, N° 155, March 2019.
- Angeles, G. et al., [Government of Malawi's unconditional cash transfer improves youth mental health](#), *Social Science and Medicine*, March 2019.
- Azzopardi, P. et al., [Progress in Adolescent Health and Wellbeing: Tracking 12 Headline Indicators for 195 Countries and Territories, 1990–2016](#), *The Lancet*, March 2019.
- Bajracharya, A. et al., [Child Marriage, Adolescent Pregnancy and School Dropout in South Asia](#)
Report by the Population Council for the United Nations Children's Fund Regional Office for South Asia, March 2019.
- Bandiera, O. et al., [The Economic Lives of Young Women in the Time of Ebola: Lessons from an Empowerment Program](#), World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, February 2019.
- Blum, R. et al., [Achieving Gender Equality Requires Placing Adolescents at the Center](#), *Journal of Adolescent Health*, June 2019.
- Boadi Frempong, R. and Stadelmann, S., [The Effect of Food Price Changes on Child Labour: Evidence from Uganda](#), *Journal of Development Studies*, June 2019.*
- Brooks, M. et al., [Can Community Health Workers Increase Modern Contraceptive Use among Young Married Women? A Cross-sectional Study in Rural Niger](#), *Reproductive Health*, March 2019.
- Bustamante, G. et al., ["I have the Right to Feel Safe": Evaluation of a School-based Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program in Ecuador](#), *Child Abuse & Neglect*, May 2019.*
- Richard F. Catalano, R.F., et al., [Positive Youth Development Programs in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Conceptual Framework and Systematic Review of Efficacy](#), April 2019.*
- Charfi, F. et al., [Profil Epidémiologique et Clinique des Tentatives de Suicide chez l'enfant et l'adolescent en Tunisie en Post Revolution](#) [Epidemiological and Clinical Profile of Suicide Attempts in Children and Adolescents in Tunisia Post Revolution], *The Pan African Medical Journal*, May 2019.
- Chong, A. et al., [Do Information Technologies Improve Teenagers' Sexual Education? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation in Colombia](#), World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, April 2019.
- Chudgar, A. et al., [Association between Completing Secondary Education and Adulthood Outcomes in Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda](#), *International Journal of Educational Development*, July 2019.*
- Cislaghi, B. et al., [Social Norms and Child Marriage in Cameroon: An Application of the Theory of Normative Spectrum](#), *Global Public Health*, March 2019.
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