Gender equity and human rights are pivotal for advancing progress on SDGs

Incorporating comprehensive sex education (or family planning education) in school curricula to reach a rights-based gender-mainstreamed and social behavior change approach is crucial to achieve all SDGs. The wealth of evidence and expertise on the transformative power of sex education highlights that this is about more than reproductive health and rights. Throughout the world, countries and communities are discussing comprehensively sex education.

According to Björn Andersson, "There is a misconception that students have access to comprehensive sexuality education, their sexual activity increases. On the contrary it really tells you how can you protect yourself from HIV or from sexually transmitted infections (STIs), how not to become pregnant as a teenager and more importantly it gives you a training to interact to behave between humans is arts, it is about having discussions around gender based violence and gender harassment and about how to use communication and negotiations and conflict resolution skills, for boys to tell that he cannot do harm to human girls or women, and that we have to respect one another irrespective of our gender. It helps one to strengthen their negotiation skills in their relations and it is also the fact that each and every one should be able to choose their partner.

He strongly feels that human sexuality education is something on which we need to focus and that in India there is no backsliding. It is absolutely necessary to promote health and rights of young people in society. It is a foundation for boys to be educated to be friendly with those who do not agree with you. This is also in line to laws and policies thinking towards how people should have access to sexual and reproductive health services.

According to Björn Andersson, "Education is a tool to create a pushback. If students have access to comprehensive sexuality education then they will be able to discuss it in all the classes the campuses of these turbulent years.

"Countries must be able to promote healthy discussions and learning. Campuses should be a place where students can be friends with those who do not agree with you. This helps to be endearing and even appear to be partisan. It is a common fact that most of the universities are divided in terms of norms and views. It is a good thing if we can have access to sexuality education. If there is a pushback. Students are students, irrespective of their location and gender.

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