

Women's and Men's Reproductive Health

A global perspective

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Concepts to touch on

- *Issues shared the world round- myths and cautions*
- *Cultural relevance*
- *Shifting statistics –things are changing*
- *Political vagaries – Policies count*

- *What can each of us do?*

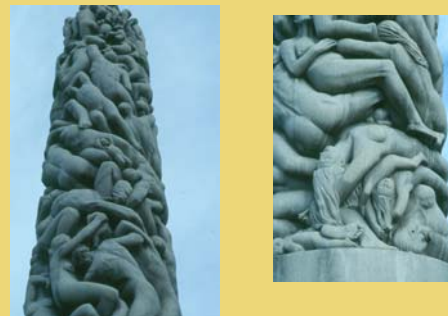
Iconic images



World Population

- Earth's population just rocketed past 7 billion
- In the time we have this 1 hr talk, 15,679 babies will have been born
- 27% of earth's population is <15 years old
- 3 billion inhabitants are <25yo

Vigeland Sculptures -Norway



Repercussions of poverty: A Street Scene



- In a country where everyone's hair is black, how much protein do you think this boy is getting?

Hip youth culture is worldwide

Mongolia condom advertisement



Current pressures for teens

Trends:

- Postpone marriage
- Experience puberty at an ever earlier age
- Have earlier sexual initiation
- Don't receive education or contraception
- Result? Unwanted pregnancies

Two stories

- Story #1
- Tanzania 1990 as told by a Mennonite missionary doctor:
Housekeeper 17yo seems ill, asks for advance Misses work until employer is not on call....
Presents at hospital: WBC 39,000, septic
Gets D&C, chloramphenicol, survives

Story #2

Kenya, 2000
Housekeeper, 17yo. Employer rapes her.
4mo later is absent for days. Pays an abortionist to terminate her pregnancy.
Gynecologist sees her in septic shock, intestines pulled into her perforated uterus.
Hysterectomy completed, she will always be single due to her inability to bear children
She says she would prefer to be dead....

Developing countries and teen pregnancy

- ignorance and misinformation are great
- unmarried teens are often refused service in clinics in developing countries
- large numbers of teens are not in school
- many teens still get married early
 - Sequestered teens - Pressure to get pregnant
- abortion is illegal in most countries

Outside my hotel in Malawi



The daughter
of a
16 year old

Your
diagnosis?

Teens and abortion

- An epidemic of desperate choices
 - Many victims are schoolgirls
 - Expelled if found pregnant
 - They lose their one perceived chance for a future
- Chloroquine's lethal dose is not much higher than the abortive dose
- Arrhythmias in the night, dead in the morning

Enlist the market queens



Good websites

- Population Reference Bureau
 - www.prb.org/
- UN sites: www.un.org/popin/index.html
 - UNFPA UN Population Fund
 - UNAIDS
 - WHO
- www.kiva.org you can be a micro-lender



- In Madagascar the average woman had 5-6 children in '06, and 4.6 in '11
- Life expectancy: 55 years in 06, 68 in '11
- Maternal deaths per 100,000 = 580 in '06, 440 in '11

Madagascar Statistics

Population: 17 million in 07
21,315,100 in mid-2011

- Urban 27% -> 31%
- % Married women using modern contraception: 10% -> 25%
- % Births attended by skilled personnel: 47% -> 44%
- Risk of maternal death: 1 in 45

Rapid changes in the world

- Look up YouTube videos of:
HANS ROSLING
a Swedish MD, PhD, statistician

Several available lectures, 4-20 minutes long.

Examples of what has worked for youth

- South Korea
 - 1960's Minister of Economic Affairs Gave Minister of Health 20% of budget
 - Aimed at married couples
 - Policies provided legal abortion and over-the-counter contraceptives
 - Now age of marriage is 27
 - Youth have easy access
- "The problem solved itself"

Varying Population Growth Rates

THAILAND

- The total fertility rate (children per woman) dropped from 6 to 2 in 30 years (now 1.6)
Doubling time = 96 years

BANGLADESH - 2.4

USA - 2.0

JAPAN - 1.4

CHINA - 1.5

Policies matter

- Laws
- Regulatory approval of drugs

Developing Countries with legal Abortion

- South Africa - 1995 (constitutionally protected and nurses can perform)
- Tunisia
- Pakistan
- Thailand North Korea South Korea
- India
- Most recent: Nepal & Ethiopia

Postpartum Hemorrhage

Misoprostol for rectal administration

Barriers: religious and "turf" and legal

#'s equal a 747 crashing daily - too controversial?
125,000 deaths per year, at least

www.venturestrategies.org

Ethiopia statistics



- 30% of 15-19 yo girls are married
- Lifetime births per woman: 5.3
- Lifetime chance to die from maternal causes: 1 in 40
- A new law allows limited legal abortion & misoprostol

Not so idyllic, actually



Imelda Marcos' home island



A Manila slum

Another market queen



Numbers defeat Quality...



Harsh morality: the Philippines

A woman in Manila presented to a Catholic hospital with bleeding.
 They assumed she had made herself abort
 They made her wait hours, cramping
 The D&C was done with no anesthesia
 Around her neck they hung a placard
 "murderess" They called the media
 She appeared on television

Some considerations

- A very low birthrate is found in Italy (9)
- A very high rate in the Philippines (25)
 - (annual # births per 1000 total pop)
- What determines when the dominant religion holds powerful sway?
- (or does it even need to be numerically dominant? USA...)

Contradictions

- In Kenya the Catholic church persuaded President Moi to ban the publication of the Girl Scout Handbook because it had a chapter on Health, discussing sexual dangers including pregnancy and vulnerability to AIDS.
- The rate of HIV is rising fastest among adolescent girls.

Politics in USA

- Plan B: over-the-counter for >16yo in 06
 - (Avail in France since 2000; dispensed in schools)
- Sibelius overruled FDA last month re: full OTC
- RU-486: 7 deaths in >500,000 in USA
 " this baby pesticide...should be banned"
 - Viagra 500 deaths by '01 world wide.
 (Silence...)

Political posturing with consequences

- UNFPA UN Population Fund
- Funds are from country donations
- US dues to UN are a different obligation
- US annual gift for years was: \$34 million
- From 2002 to 2009: zero dollars

Renewed by Obama's administration

Peer Advocates for Health



Funded by UNFPA

These youth give health talks in schools
 They pass out condoms in markets
 They offer info on STD checks, early pregnancy cks

The global gag rule

- Reagan- prohibited USAID funds going to foreign aid organizations if abortion is mentioned.

The organization

- a) cannot counsel
- B) cannot perform legal abortions
- b) cannot lobby for safe abortion



Gag Rule

- Nepal Planned Parenthood
- Lost \$ for HIV prevention
- A Human Rights issue to other Foreign NGOs



President Bush's ABC program

- A = abstinence
- B = be faithful
- C = condoms



Barriers to Good Care



Facilities

This is a hospital (in use) in Pakistan

Infrastructure



Zimbabwe

Tubal Ligation under local anesthesia



Zimbabwe



Men are “the owners of the uterus”...

President Mugabe 87yo
31 year rule

Inflation rate >1000%

Starvation is widespread

Infrastructure in tatters

Wife’s nickname:

Gucci Grace

Men’s Roles, Men’s Health



Malawi



Kenya

Vasectomy



This man is very proud of his choice for his family

Didn’t get far...

A Lippes loop IUD
down the street
from Nairobi’s
public hospital



1990

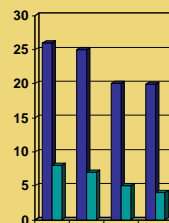
Circumcision and Reproductive Health



Is it really the
unkindest cut of
all?

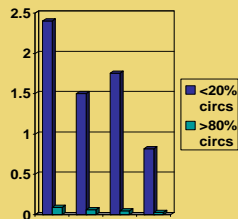
2-8x higher risk of HIV
in uncircumcised men

HIV prevalence by Circumcision Customs



- Zimbabwe 25.8% +
- Botswana 25%
- Namibia 19.5%
- Zambia 19.9% +
- vs.
- Kenya (non Luo) 8%+
- Congo (high circ rates)
- Cameroon (high circ rates)
- Nigeria 4.12%+

South & SE Asia HIV prevalence comparing circumcision rates



- Cambodia 2.4%
- Thailand (low circ rates)
- Myanmar
- India .82%
- VS.
- Pakistan .09% (high rates)
- Philippines .06%
- Indonesia .05%
- Bangladesh .03%

Another good web site

Google Public Data

World Bank

-World Development Indicators

People - (fertility rates, contraceptive use, etc)

World view - (Population growth rates, etc)

Environment

Economy

The concept of a civil society

The Ethiopian coffee ceremony



Toward a Civil Society



Education

Access to control of fertility by girls and women

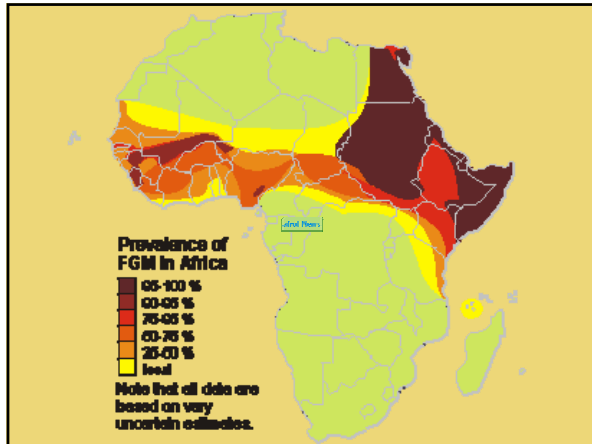
Raising standards of living

Improving environmental health



Female genital cutting

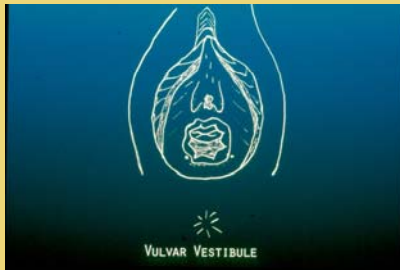
- Cultural, not religiously based
- Ethiopia: Christian, muslim, animist
- 130 million women
- 1 million yearly
- Ages 2-12 yo but varies



Types of circumcision

1. Sunna - consists of the removal of the prepuce (retractable fold of skin, or hood) and /or the tip of the clitoris. Sunna in Arabic means "tradition".
2. Clitoridectomy - consists of the removal of the entire clitoris (prepuce and glands) and the removal of the adjacent labia. Front area only.
3. Infibulation (pharonic circumcision) -- consists of performing a clitoridectomy & removal of all or part of the labia minora). This is then stitched up allowing a small hole to remain open to allow for urine and menstrual blood to flow through.

Genital cutting



Cultural reasons

- Makes a girl marriageable
 - Honor, chastity, virginity
- Removes the male part of anatomy
- Hygiene, but also cleansed to do chores
- Allows a woman to be fertile
- A man could die if the penis touches a clitoris
- Older husbands might be outmatched in sex drive

- Cultural traditions must change from within

Vesico-vaginal Fistula

A hole between the bladder and vagina due to days of pressure in labor with no delivery

Rates are high where

- there is early marriage (immature pelvic size)
- there is no health infrastructure
 - (no nearby hospital or even transportation to a distant health facility)
- there are not sufficient trained birth attendants