What are young people’s perceptions of gender violence?

What are the challenges in the realisation of young people’s SRHR?

How do learners engage with the dance4life Barbados programme?

**Methodology**
- Decolonising feminist methodology
  Rooted in Caribbean feminist theory.
- Youth-centred participation methods
  PhotoVoice and focus group workshops.
- Comprehensive intersectional approach
  Reading perspectives of violence with nuance.

**AIM**
To explore the contribution of sexuality education in gender violence prevention: A case study of dance4life Barbados

**Findings**
Gender violence is a complex phenomenon which intersects the daily realities of young Barbadians. Participant insights demonstrated the plurality of roles as victim, perpetrator and witness.

‘Everybody knows everybody’: Fear of gossip and the etiquette of silence police the narrow spaces for young people’s SRHR. This has significant impact on their recognition and disclosure of gender violence.

Confidential dialogic education spaces like dance4life are highly valued by participants as places to express themselves; discuss and debate gender violence and their wider SRHR.

**Discussion**
PhotoVoice is a creative way to amplify and engage young voices in discussions around gender violence in restricted spaces.

Research as praxis? In group discussions young participants demonstrated an increased awareness of gender constructs and inequalities.

Applying findings to other ‘island’ spaces with heightened social marginalisation, gender violence and restricted freedoms: can this dialogic education model work in isolated IDP/refugee settlements too?

In Barbados, where young voices are heavily policed, Freirean dialogic education spaces for critical thinking are highly valued by learners. This sex education model is key to approaching gender violence prevention in small island states.

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