CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality

Meaningful youth participation





Content

- What is meaningful youth participation?
- Why meaningful youth participation?
- The Flower of Participation
- How can youth participate?
- Conclusions

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Youth?

United Nations:

Young people between 15-24

CHOICE:

Young people under 30

Ask yourself:

Who do you mean with 'youth'?



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Meaningful Youth Participation (MYP)?

- Participation of young people in all stages and levels of ٠ policies, programmes and decision-making processes that influence their lives
- Young people participate on equal terms through access ٠ to accurate information and training
- One young person does not represent all young people, ٠ so MYP should include young people from diverse backgrounds





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Meaningful Youth Participation (MYP)? - 2

- There is no one-size-fits-all approach to MYP
- It must fit the organization, the program objectives and the needs of young people
- Each context and each youth group requires different strategies
- Whether participation is meaningful depends on young people's perspective



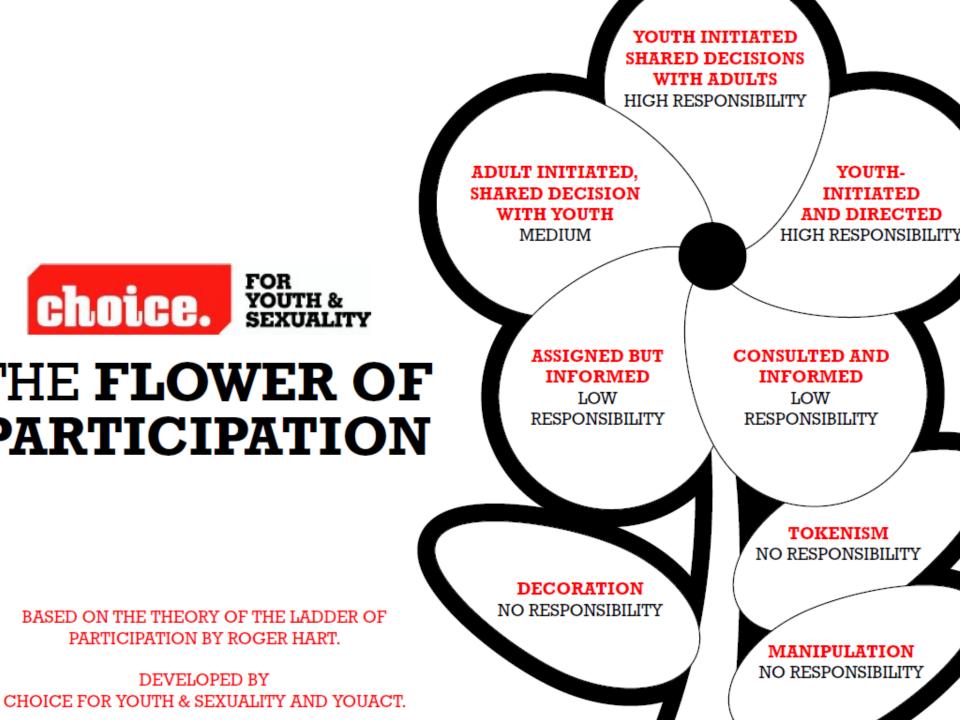
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Why Meaningful Youth Participation?

General:

- Young people's right
- Empower youth
- Better targeted and more effective services and projects
- Building the overall capacity of the organization

Girls not Brides:

- Youth participation as an effective strategy for ending CM
- Demographics: Achieving results at scale
- Involving young people in advocacy enhances credibility

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How can youth participate?

- Structural positions
- Programmatic positions
- Advocacy



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Conclusions

- MYP has a wide range of potential benefits
- What can be considered as MYP depends on the situation and on young people's perspective
- Youth can participate in many different ways



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