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Moving the Agenda Forward
Sexual Harassment Among the Youth in Togo

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Background

Violence and sexual harassment among African youth and especially Togolese are evident.

Youth are exposed to high levels of violence both at school and in the general community.
Aims of the study

• Establish the prevalence, nature and dimensions of sexual harassment and violence against youth in schools and their impact on school retention in Togo
• Make recommendations for proper care for youth especially female victims of violence

• Identify appropriate strategies to reduce violence against youth in schools and in their communities
At the end of the study, we should be able to identify:

1. What are the different forms of violence experienced by young people in schools
2. The consequences of violence for school retention and education levels

3. Causes and possible solutions to the violence

4. A document summarizing what is known about violence against young people in school
Results

Sexual harassment

1. Boys reported sexual harassment from older males and from females in same age group
2. Girls experienced sexual harassment and rape from friends, family friends, strangers, boyfriends, and family members.

3. The level of harassment varied from touching private parts, manipulation, threat, forced sex and rape.
Violence

i) Most boys reported violent experiences with girlfriends only; many involved drugs and alcohol

• Unfaithfulness also a cause of physical violence and threats from girlfriends
ii) Girls reported experiences of both physical and sexual violence from their boyfriends, family members and friends

• Jealousy a cause of physical violence from boyfriends
• Girls reported significantly more and more varied forms of sexual harassment and violence than boys
Percentage of girls victimized in schools by type of violence

- Rape
- Sexually Molested
- Incest
- Physical Violence
- Insult & Humiliation
Percentage of teachers and boys who have perpetrated violence by type

Teacher’s Implications
Boys’ Implications

- Physical Aggression
- Angry Words
- Sexual Harassment
- Rape
- Intimidations
- Touching Private Parts
- Humiliations
- Others
Conclusion

Violence and sexual harassment among youth in schools are prevalent
The phenomenon is not unique to schools; however, because schools hold the most vulnerable, the consequences can be greater.
Reducing sexual harassment and violence among youth calls for collaboration among institutional, political, administrative, education and agencies
Improved dialogue in the framework of a partnership among security services, justice and health at the central and local levels can serve as a springboard to a strategy for the prevention of sexual violence and harassment.
However, education through multiple modes of action is central to the implementation of a prevention strategy and an action plan.