

Hi everyone,

Below is a summary of the contributions we've received so far. Looking forward to hearing from you all...

One participant from Kenya, Wajuhi, gave us an example that refers to Bill's question that related to promoting behaviours that may be perceived as good or bad and ethics associated with this decision making. Wajuhi's example is very salient of this discussion, so I have included the majority of it below:

“We were preparing to make a video with primary school children between 12 and 20 years in an area where female genital cut is a MUST. Earlier, the adults from the NGO I am working with had discussed the same issue with the question of whether this was OUR issue or the COMMUNITY issue. From the youth discussions, it emerged that uncircumcised girls cannot get a husband in this community so they are forced marry outside their community [very difficult] or take themselves to be circumcised when they are bigger otherwise the traditional mid-wives in the area [it is a remote community with scanty infrastructure] - cut off their clitoris before helping them with the delivery as it is taboo for them to deliver a woman who is still in a 'child' state.

So, the issue the youth took up on the area of FGC was "the bad behavior and attitude of the girls and boys who have undergone this rite of passage to adulthood" - they drop out of school as they feel equal to the adult teachers, so this is what they wanted the community and the youth to discuss - behavior change of circumcised youth towards their teachers - so that they can remain in school, acquire an education and bring development to their community.”

Wajuhi concludes that we must have buy-in from the community in order to do any health promotion work, as they are the ones that know best.

In addition, we received a comment from Lisa who is with PATH in China. Lisa responded to the comment from our previous discussion that said: “we need to show business companies what they can do. Case studies are needed. Concrete projects...” With that in mind, Lisa attached two case studies which can be reviewed in the Forum Resource folder in the Library of the forum's website, by following these links: <http://tinyurl.com/3cvt9u> and <http://tinyurl.com/2sucok>