Adolescent Trends: Global

Robert Wm. Blum, MD, MPH, PhD
Johns Hopkins University
Section A

Social and Demographic Trends
The Shifting Realities

- A generation ago, AIDS was unknown
  - Today, it is the **second leading cause of mortality in the second decade**
- More than a generation ago, infectious diseases were the major killers of youth
  - Today (except for HIV), social, behavioral, and environmental factors predominate
- A generation ago, many more young people lived in rural areas, fewer went to school, and most married earlier than today
Demographic Trends

- Today, 27% of the world’s population is between the ages of 10–24 years
- In a number of countries in sub-Saharan Africa, there are five times the number of people <15 years than over 55
- In many developing countries, young people make up 25–30% of the population
  - In Japan and France, it is 13% and 14%
  - In China, 16%
## Population of Young People

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Year 2006</th>
<th>Year 2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The world</td>
<td>1,773</td>
<td>1,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1,087</td>
<td>1,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. America</td>
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<td>74</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. America</td>
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<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
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<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social, Demographic Trends Impacting Adolescent Health

- Migration
  - Between countries
  - Within countries: rural to urban
  - Young women
Social, Demographic Trends Impacting Adolescent Health

- Globalization
- The rising value of education
- Delay in the age of marriage

Factors that Influence Migration

- Income disparities between and within regions
- Labor and migration policies of countries
- Political conflicts; natural disasters; war
- Environmental degradation (e.g., loss of farmland)
- “Brain-drain”
The Rise of the Urban Society

- In 1960, two-thirds of the world lived in rural areas
  - By 2030 it will be 40%
  - Today, there are 23 mega-cities of the world with over 10 million people
Consequences of Urbanization

- Disintegration of traditional family and social structures
- Rise in unemployment
- Rise in juvenile violence

Consequences of Urbanization

- Disintegration of traditional family and social structures
- Rise in unemployment
- Rise in juvenile violence
- Rise in youth suicide

The Impact of Globalization

- Brings both potential risks and benefits to young people:
  - More opportunities for employment (particularly in Asia)
  - Rural youth appear unaffected; further marginalized
  - Increased clash between traditional and modern values
The Rising Value of Education

- Nearly half of all countries mandate education through the age of 14
- Between 1980 and today, the percent of boys enrolled in secondary schools rose from 54% to 63%
- For girls, the rise was even more dramatic: 44% to 56%
Consequences of Education

- Delay in age of marriage
- Rise in out-of-wedlock births
- Rise in clandestine abortions
- Rise in number of sexual partners with associated risks of AIDS and other STIs