

PERIOD POVERTY INFO SESSION

Wednesday
December 2nd @12pm



WHAT IS PERIOD POVERTY?

Period poverty is the lack of access to sanitary products, menstrual hygiene education, toilets, hand washing facilities, and, or, waste management.

- Globally, 2.3 billion people live without basic sanitation services
- Period poverty in the U.S.
- Period poverty takes the form of ostracization in many countries

PERIOD POVERTY AROUND THE WORLD

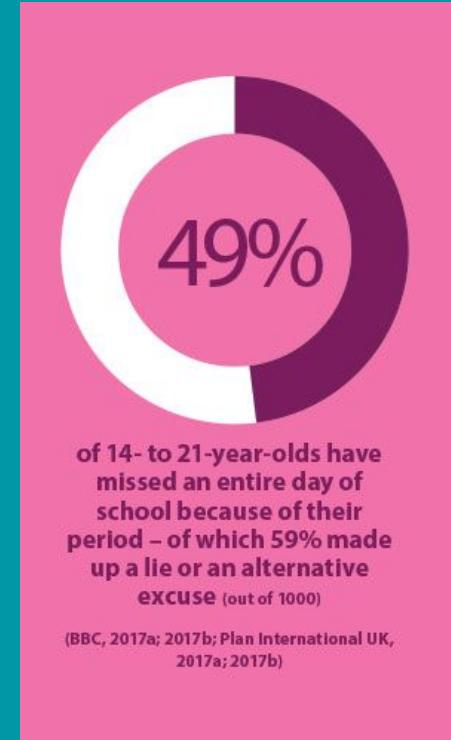
Nepal - menstruating women are seen as impure by their community and banished to huts during their cycles.

India - lack of menstrual hygiene facilities leads to women dropping out of school and even to women dying because of infections they get from using literally anything to manage their menstruation.

El Salvador - COVID-19 could lead to 30 percent of Salvadoran households living in poverty. Further leading to an increase in the existing period poverty.

PERIOD POVERTY AND ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- Lack of access to menstrual products coupled with cultural stigmas around periods forces children around the world to miss valuable education time every month
- This isn't just a problem in developing countries- in the U.S., 1 in 10 teens have missed class due to lack of access to menstrual products (CNN News)



BREAKING THE STIGMA OF PERIOD POVERTY



- Breaking the stigma with period poverty starts with being able to even state that periods are periods, they exist and are not some mystery and abstract concept.
- Knowing the difference between menstruation cycle and menopause is vital as well because they are two different womanly cycles.
- Due to traditional societal and cultural norms that date back centuries, for some reason even though women have always been seen as birth givers, the sheer fact of women and girls menstruating is still in many countries seen as dirty and a disgrace. This affects the access for the basic access of feminine cleanliness products.

BREAKING THE STIGMA OF PERIOD POVERTY CONT.



- Many women and girls around the world, out of fear of discrimination, make up secret code names for everyday conversations in regards to their periods
- We all need to be able to have the conversation with others of the importance of the normalcy of periods, plain and simple
- Governments needs to have affordable and tax-free female sanitary products, they must provide wider access to sanitation facilities for easier management of menstrual cycles
- Workplaces must, through policy, provide inclusion of menstruating and menopausal women
- With presentations like this, there will be the necessary increase access of information and education on the matter to break the stigma and taboos brought from period poverty

QUESTIONS?

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