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TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Digital Monitoring Behaviour through Social Media Platforms as a Corelate of Partner Violence Among Adolescent Girls
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Measuring Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals</i>
Presenting Author	Surekha Tayade
Co-Authors	
Country	India
Abstract N^o	TUFH203
Content	<p>Background – There has been an exponential increase in the use of technology and social media in adolescent’s communication. This rise in frequency of digital communication provides opportunities for abuse, particularly in controlling/monitoring behaviors through social networks or digital devices. Methods: Adolescent females reporting to ARSH (Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health) clinics were assessed through 15-point self-administered questionnaire. Dating partner was endorsed by 73 of 109 respondents. Questions comprised digital violence through technology and cell phone devices, including partner abuse like insistence for password sharing, reviewing phone call lists, reading text messages to monitor partner activity, use of abusing language, name calling and sexual coercion. Threatening behavior and physical abuse in relationship were evaluated Results – Digital controlling behavior by dating partner was reported by 71.23 percent of adolescent girls, most common form being checking through text messages, phone call list and use of abusive language. Thirty-five percent reported more than one form of partner monitoring behavior. Digital controlling behavior correlated significantly with reports of being victimized by partners through threats and physical abuse. Respondents also reported depressive symptoms, substance abuse, poor academic performance and loss of self-esteem. Conclusions: Victimization and partner violence is intricately related to dating relationships experiencing controlling behaviors exerted by partners through monitoring of digital communication. These markers of unhealthy relationships are a significant contributor to increase in depressive symptomatology and can be assessed by providers. It is recommended that digital abuse history should be a part of adolescent health evaluation protocol.</p>