

## **CLEIMUN19**

“Collaboration in a Polarized World: Hope for the Future?”

A Research Report

COMMITTEE: World Health Organization (WHO)

QUESTION OF: Expanding Access to Treatment and Reducing Stigmatization for HIV/AIDS Patients.

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### **The Question of Improving Access to Women’s Healthcare in Less Developed Nations.**

#### **Introduction and background.**

Women’s health in less developed nations is not as readily available in some cultures like developed nations. There are many issues that need to be address in regards to women’s health in less developed nations. These includes access to healthcare, quality of healthcare, and variety of healthcare. Some points the World Health Organization touches on are STIs, HIV, violence against women, and mental health. These are problems that can be solved by increasing access in less developed nations. This healthcare also includes threats like violence against women. This is prevalent in less developed nations and a problem for women’s health.

#### **What is the Current Women’s Health Situation like?**

Births and abortions cause problems to women’s health because of the lack of proper healthcare facilities. “Approximately 529,000 women die from pregnancy-related causes, and almost all (99%) of these maternal deaths occur in developing nations. Unsafe abortions alone cause 68,000

deaths annually” (Nour). This number of unsafe births and abortions threatens the health of women in developing nations. These numbers are most attributed to lack of family planning and inadequate access to emergency care. A practice that happens frequently in Africa is the cutting of female genitalia. Many issues have occurred because of this practice including hemorrhage, infection, sepsis, and death. This practice also creates greater problems during childbirth because of the scars from the practice. Child marriage is another practice common in the developing nations. This is a problem to women’s health because the women receive less education, are at a greater risk of STDs, and the mental health problems. Early pregnancy, death during childbirth, and obstetric fistulas are more things threatening these child brides. Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women worldwide behind breast cancer. “According to WHO, there are 510,000 new cases every year, with 80% occurring in developing nations. Half of these cases end in death”(Nour). Cancer is rarely addressed in developing nations mostly due to not having the proper healthcare and technology to find the cancer.

### **What are the Effects of the Poor health of Women?**

The main effect of these problems of women’s health was the death rate for women in developing nations. Many of the health problem previously listed out have the risk of death. This risk can be decrease significantly if several of these problems are addressed.

### **Solutions to this problem.**

One main solution to this problem of the women’s healthcare would be to improve the infrastructure of the developing nation. This improvement would be to mainly the hospitals and

medical treatment centers. Also the improvement to the roads would improve the health problem for those who cannot gain access due to poor roads. Providing aide in terms of non-profit organizations for the education of the dangers of the unprepared pregnancies and STDs.. This education would make the people in the developing nations to become more aware of the threatens to women's healthcare.

<http://www.who.int/life-course/news/commentaries/2015-intl-womens-day/en/>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2492587/>