Phase 2
Focus Groups Discussion Guide for Parents - Bangladesh

Participants: This tool can be used with mothers and fathers with minor modifications.

Tools used:

Social norms related to parents Steps:
1. Explain the consent process and do introductions – 15 minutes
2. Implement activity
   Social norms related to parents – 90-95 minutes
3. Read and discuss the closure statement – 5 minutes

Total time: 1.5-2 hours

SOCIAL NORMS RELATED TO PARENTS

Purpose:
The aim of this exercise is to look into participants’ views on specific social norms for girls (12-16 years) within their village and in order to explore their perceptions and to understand barriers in realising the girls’ rights.

Method:

Follow steps below for the topics:-

Say "In some villages, people think if the parents .... (insert behaviour from the list below), it causes shame to families.” For each of the following behaviour ask,

1. Is this true in this village? Do you think most or only a few parents do this (insert behaviour from the list below) in your village? What are the negative consequences for the family if it happens in this village?

   i. Allow their daughter to move in and around the village alone
   ii. Discuss changes at puberty, wet dream, menstruation and hygiene etc with their sons and daughters
   iii. Encourage son to perform household chores every day like the daughters do such as: sweeping and mopping the house, cooking, washing clothes etc
iv. Allow adolescent daughter to play sports (like football, cricket) in an open field and engage in other outdoor activities.

v. Allow their daughter to talk with an adolescent boy on the way to school or in the neighbourhood

vi. Allow their daughter to reject a good marriage proposal, even if the daughter recently had some eve teasing or bad rumours about her

vii. Allow their daughter to reject a marriage proposal, even if she isn’t currently school going

viii. Allow their daughter to complete HSC before marrying them off

2. Are there certain situations where it is okay for the parents to allow that, and there would be no negative consequence? Are there some parents in your village for whom it is okay to do that behaviour and there would be no negative consequence? ”

3. Ask: “Are there certain parents who are allowing that behaviour anyway, despite the consequences?” Please give examples from your village.

CLOSURE PROCESS FOR ALL FGDs

- Summarise what you have done during the session in 2-3 sentences
- Remind group about the purpose and use of the information provided
- Remind participants not to share the details of your discussion with others in the community
- Thank participants for their time and effort
- Clean the area and make sure no materials are left behind
- Stop the audio recorder and save the file.