



Sex Education as Health Promotion: What Does It Take?

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Message from the Guest Editors

The promotion of sexual health has been over-centered in the prevention of risks and diseases more than the positive aspects of wellbeing. This gap is being overcome by Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE) programs allowing us to go beyond education about reproduction, risks and disease, which reaffirms the position of sexuality education within a framework of human rights and gender equality. However, sex education appeared as a range of different practices that were held together by the label “comprehensive sex education”, and despite the extensive evidence on the effectiveness of CSE Programmers, there are several issues to face. First, CSE programs are described as an evidence-informed approach, but this approach of sex education as realistic and neutral, connected to science and facts, forgets the crucial role of the social and political context in which sex education programs are implemented. Second, CSE highlights the individualistic, neoliberal approach to sexuality, which reduces the attention to crucial issues such as power differences, sexual agency, and sexual pleasure.

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