

Young people and the law in Asia and the Pacific: A review of laws and policies affecting young people's access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV services

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Organizations:

UNESCO Office Bangkok and Regional Bureau for Education in Asia and the Pacific

Description:

To date, there has been no systematic review of how laws and policies govern young people's access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV information and services, and the ability of service providers to ensure these services are available and accessible to young people. This review aims to do so for the Asia-Pacific region. It assesses criminal laws, laws in relation to age, laws on health and HIV, law enforcement practices, and national policies related to HIV, SRH and youth. In addition to describing laws, policies and practices that impede access to services, the review highlights examples of laws, policies and practices that are supportive of the rights of young people to access services. The review also considers the international commitments and obligations of countries in the Asia-Pacific region related to the rights of young people to the highest attainable standard of health. This includes obligations under international human rights law, and recommendations and commitments relating to young people in international instruments including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the recommendations of the Global Commission on HIV and the law. This review is a joint effort between UNESCO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNDP and Youth LEAD, the Asia-Pacific Network of Young Key Populations.

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