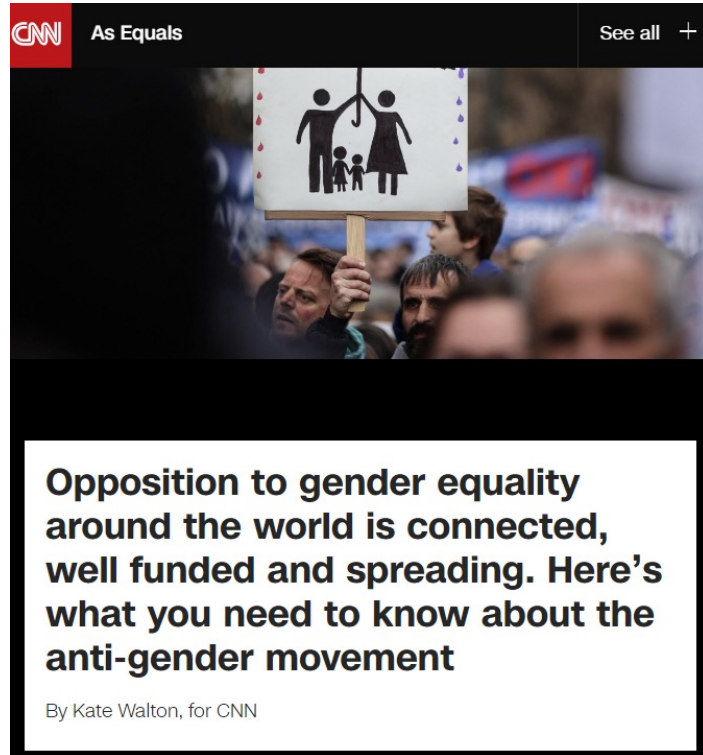




<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/02/world/americas/starlink-internet-elon-musk-brazil-amazon.html>



<https://www.cnn.com/interactive/asequals/anti-gender-equality-threat-explained-as-equals-intl-cmd/>

Data privacy?

Lawsuit claiming Flo Health app shared intimate data with Facebook greenlit as Canadian class action

Google earned \$10m from ads misdirecting abortion seekers to 'pregnancy crisis centers'

Trust in tech?

Why a social media health check must include the global south

Meta and Google restricting access to reproductive health information

TikTokers Are Stealing Doctors And Nurses' Photos To Peddle Pills And Powders

Organized opposition!

Activists link US nonprofit to anti-LGBTQ laws in Africa. The group says it's only promoting 'family values'

Backlash to transgender health care isn't new – but the faulty science used to justify it has changed to meet the times

Communities and civil society

Problem:

Individuals and affected communities find it difficult to search, find and act on credible SRHR information. They are also more exposed to health misinformation.

How might we protect them and build resilience?

Three potential strategies:

1. Improve quality, quantity and accessibility of health information for your communities. Leverage new social media platforms, work in close digital spaces, and make it easy for people to translate, remix and reuse content. (Don't assume your Ministry of Health or UN will do this well.)
2. Understand and guard against misinformation targeting your community. Track most common questions and concerns and actively address them in the community. If needed, pass them along to health organizations.
3. Equip yourself against digital harms. Organize support for community members and promote digital and health literacy among community members. Know your rights and which institutions are available to you to protect you from deceptive marketing and misinformation (e.g. consumer protection bureau, national teleco, national regulatory authority)

public health and governance

Problem:

Often staffed by people who are not digital natives with incomplete understanding of digital technology, platforms and digital communities. Not always aware of how key populations search for, use and share health information, especially online, and how they are impacted by digital infrastructure and norms.

How might we improve how health systems and governments serve LGBTQI+ communities, especially online?

Three potential strategies:

1. Invest in digital capacity through hiring staff and supporting budgets to engage in digital spaces and improve quality and freshness and responsiveness of content and to questions from communities.
2. Better understand how to equip and protect health workers from online harms. Health workers rarely receive training on digital media and communication or how to address misinformation or talk to patients/clients on digital spaces. Advocate for occupational health plans that include psychosocial support and protection against harassment of health workers online and offline.
3. Work with civil society and policymakers on strategies to identify and mitigate public health harms caused by organized anti-health groups.

societal (media, academia, private sector)

Problem:

There are many groups such as journalists, academics and private companies who may not see themselves in SRHR topics, but who play an important role, such as mistakenly amplifying harmful narratives or misinformation or monetizing bad actors who advocate against the LGBTQI+ community and related health services.

How might we strengthen the societal conversation and norms so that they support LGBTQI health and rights?

Three potential strategies:

1. Train journalists on how to identify, factcheck and address anti-LGBTQI+ health narratives. Provide trained spokespeople and credible sources of information for newsrooms (including healthcare professionals who serve LGBTQI communities) and how to accurately cover medical research on related topics.
2. Use existing coalitions to consider digital dimensions of outreach, education and social norming and acceptance of LGBTQI people, with a focus on addressing common misinformation narratives that are harmful.
3. Leverage partnerships with academics to generate evidence needed for advocacy and policy change to protect the rights of LGBTQI people, especially in digital spaces.

Key takeaways:

1. The digital information environment will only become more complex and influential over all of our healthcare decisions and access to health information.
2. Misinformation is only one of many negatives facets of the information environment that needs to be tracked and addressed.
3. It's a lot easier for bad actors to exploit digital environment than for us to react to actions or mount a more effective response.
4. We need to think about resilience and prevention to digital challenges, things that “stick” versus one-off campaigns.

LEARN MORE

Can Reimagining Sex Education Tackle the Root of Infertility Misinformation?

Missouri hires an anti-abortion marketing agency

How Do I Know When TikTok Promotes Birth Control Misinformation?

I'm a science factchecker and even I was overwhelmed researching pregnancy and baby advice

Why pregnancy forums are rife with health misinformation

Myths and Misinformation Hinder Male Circumcision Campaign in Uganda

The World Health Organization has recommended safe male circumcision, to help prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Uganda has implemented a program to encourage the operation and advertise its benefits - so why is the program still struggling to meet its goals?

Deadly Abortion Misinformation Rings Alarm Bells for Doctors, TikTok

Online posts touting toxic substances to end pregnancies are pushing social-media platforms and doctors to act.

'A uniquely dangerous tool': How Google's data can help states track abortions

Applying infodemic management models to misinformation on sexual and reproductive health and rights

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/applying-infodemic-management-models-misinformation-sexual-d-purnat>