



Gender-related barriers to schooling: What do we know about the effects of sexuality and life skills education?

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Population Council

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Overview

1. Background
2. Systematic Review
3. Exploration of Life Skills and CSE

The Girls' Education Landscape

The Good News

Dramatic increase in girls' enrollment globally

Gender parity achieved globally in primary and secondary enrollment

The Remaining Challenges

Gender gaps in enrollment remain

Progress in attainment has stagnated

Very low levels of learning

Conflicts between schooling and adult roles (marriage, parenthood)

Extended learning disruptions due to epidemics (COVID-19), environmental disasters, conflict, etc.

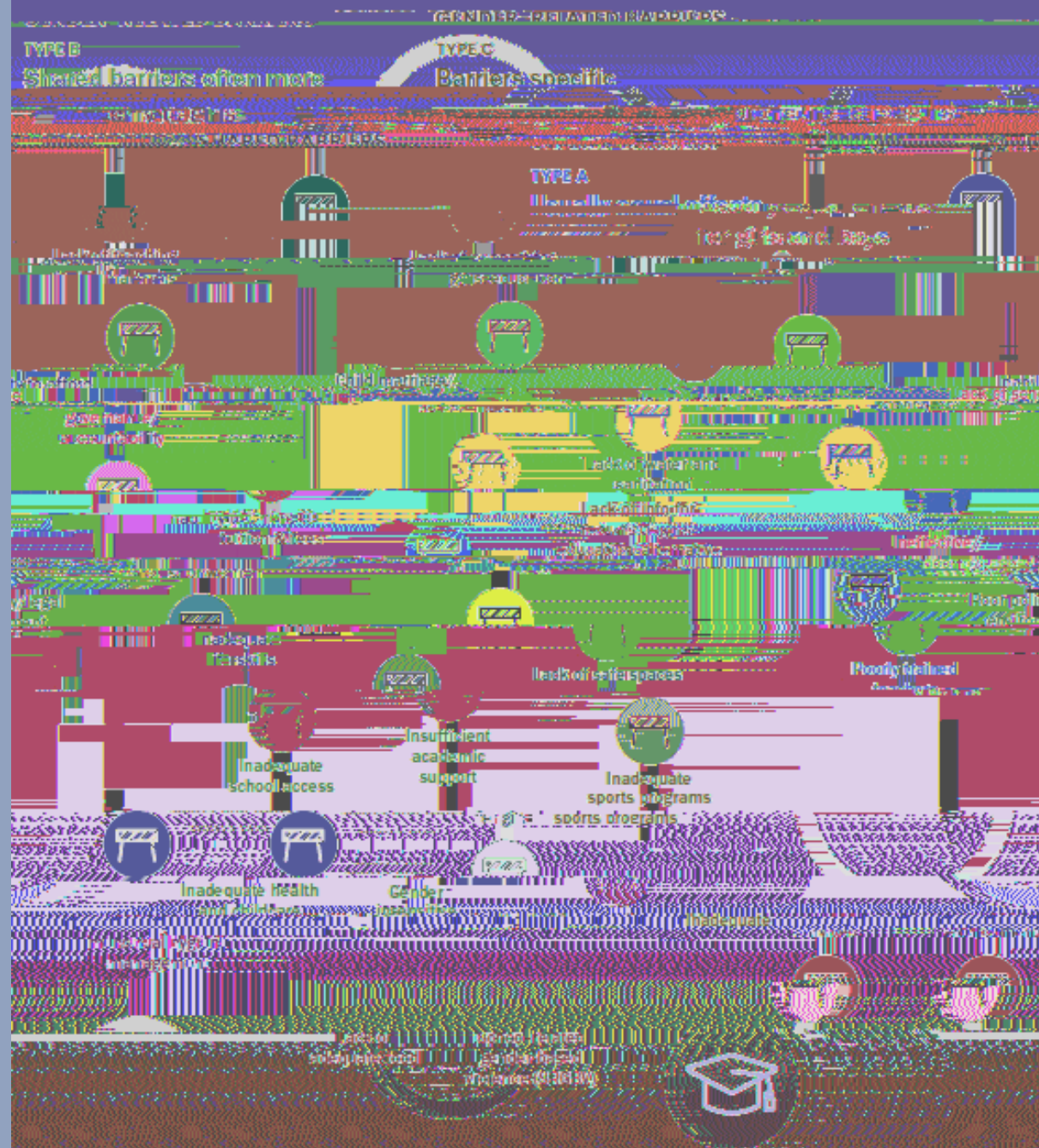
Gender disparities in education persist, especially when we take an intersectional lens.

The poorest girls have the lowest attainment, worst learning outcomes, and biggest gender gaps.



Perceived barriers to education for girls

Some barriers may affect girls and boys equally, some may be more pronounced for girls, and some are shouldered by girls alone





Academic Support



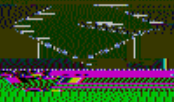
Inability to Afford Materials



Lack of support for Girls' Education



Gender-Insensitive



Inability to Afford Tuition & Fees



Child Marriage & Adolescent Pregnancy

Environment



Sanitation



In Returns to Girls' Schooling

Inadequate Sports Programs for Girls



Lack of Teaching Materials & Supplies



Lack of Adequate

Health &

School Dropout

Inadequate



Inadequate Health & Nutrition

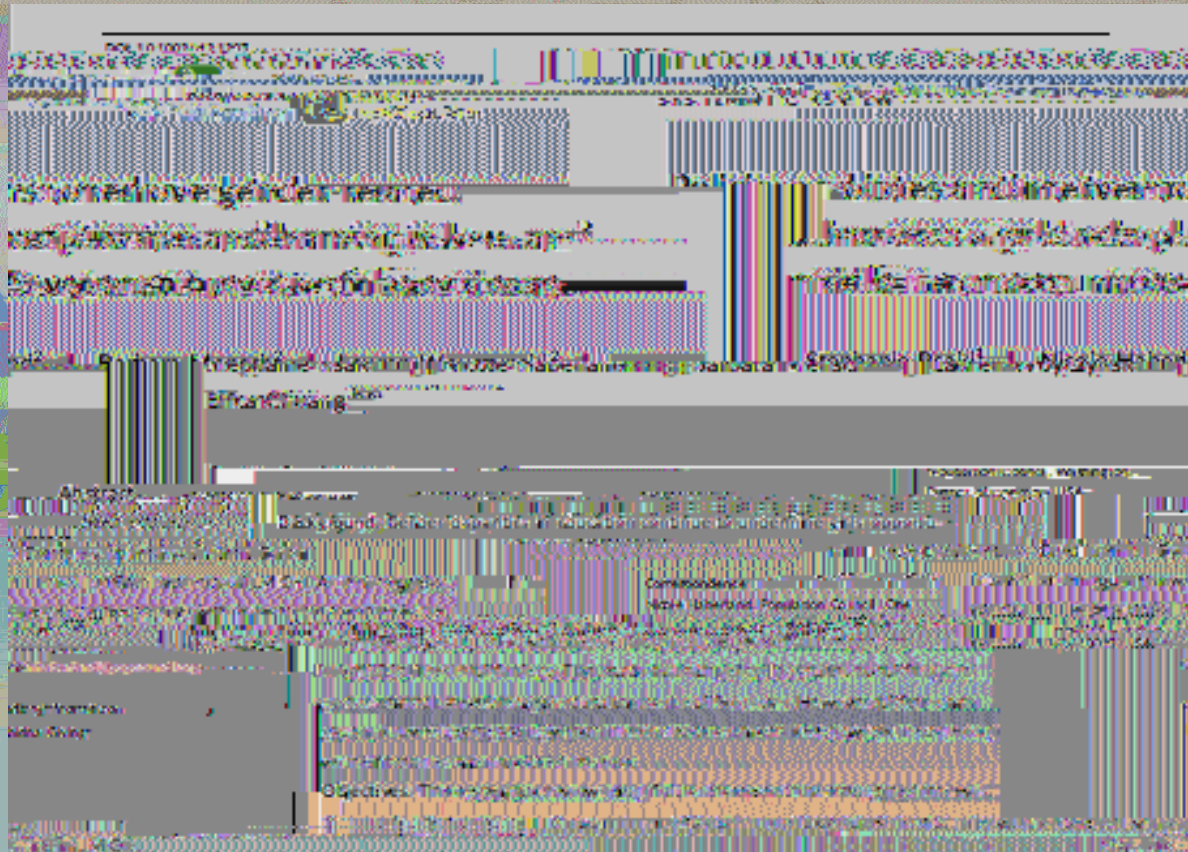


Gender Based Violence



Inadequate Health & Nutrition

Systematic Review





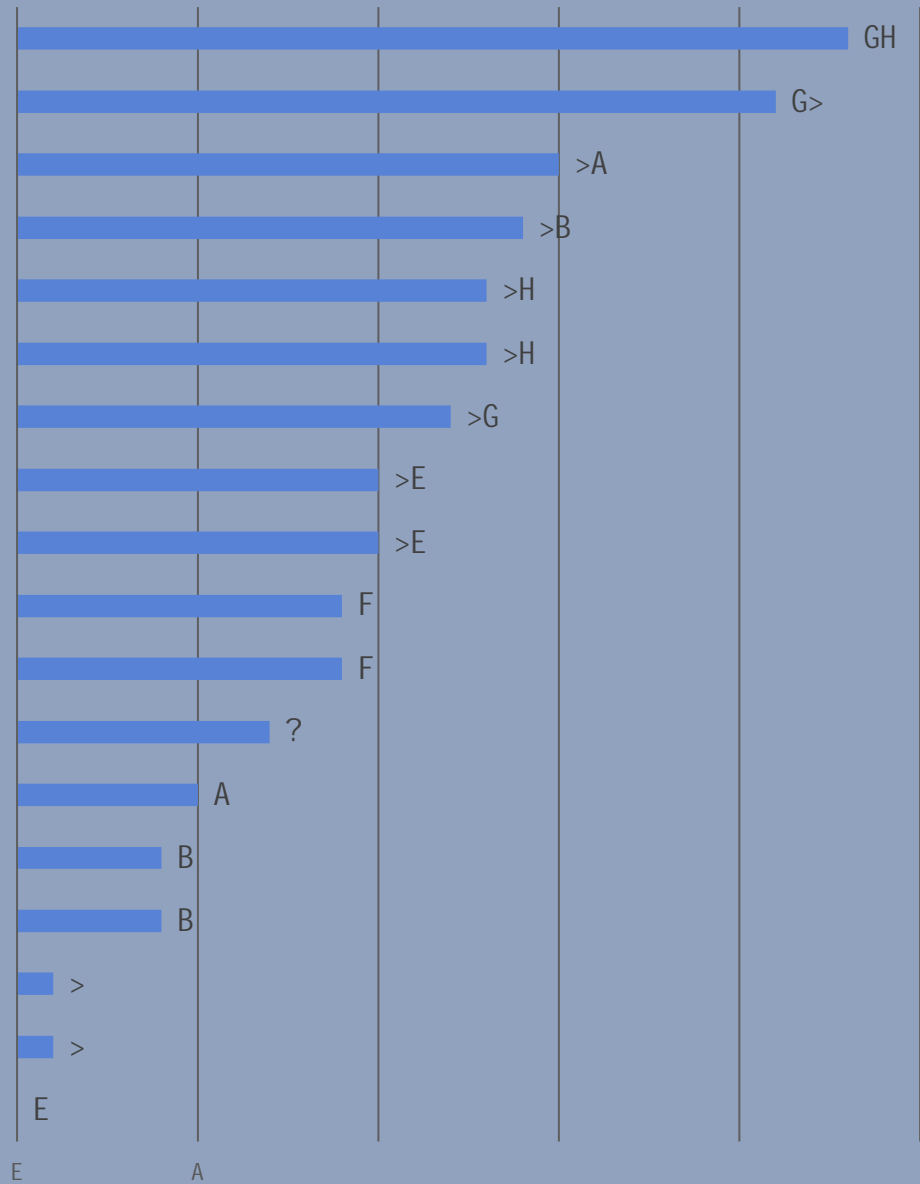
Results



PRISMA Flow Diagram



Studies by Barrier



Effective Interventions Exist to Address the Following Barriers:

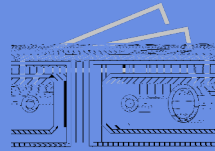
Inability to afford
tuition and fees

Lack of adequate
food

Insufficient
academic
support

Promising Interventions Exist to Address the Following Barriers:

Inability to afford school materials



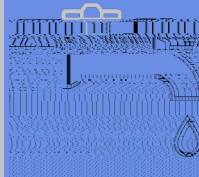
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Inadequate school access



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Lack of water and sanitation



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More Research is Needed for the Following Barriers Due to Heterogenous Effects:

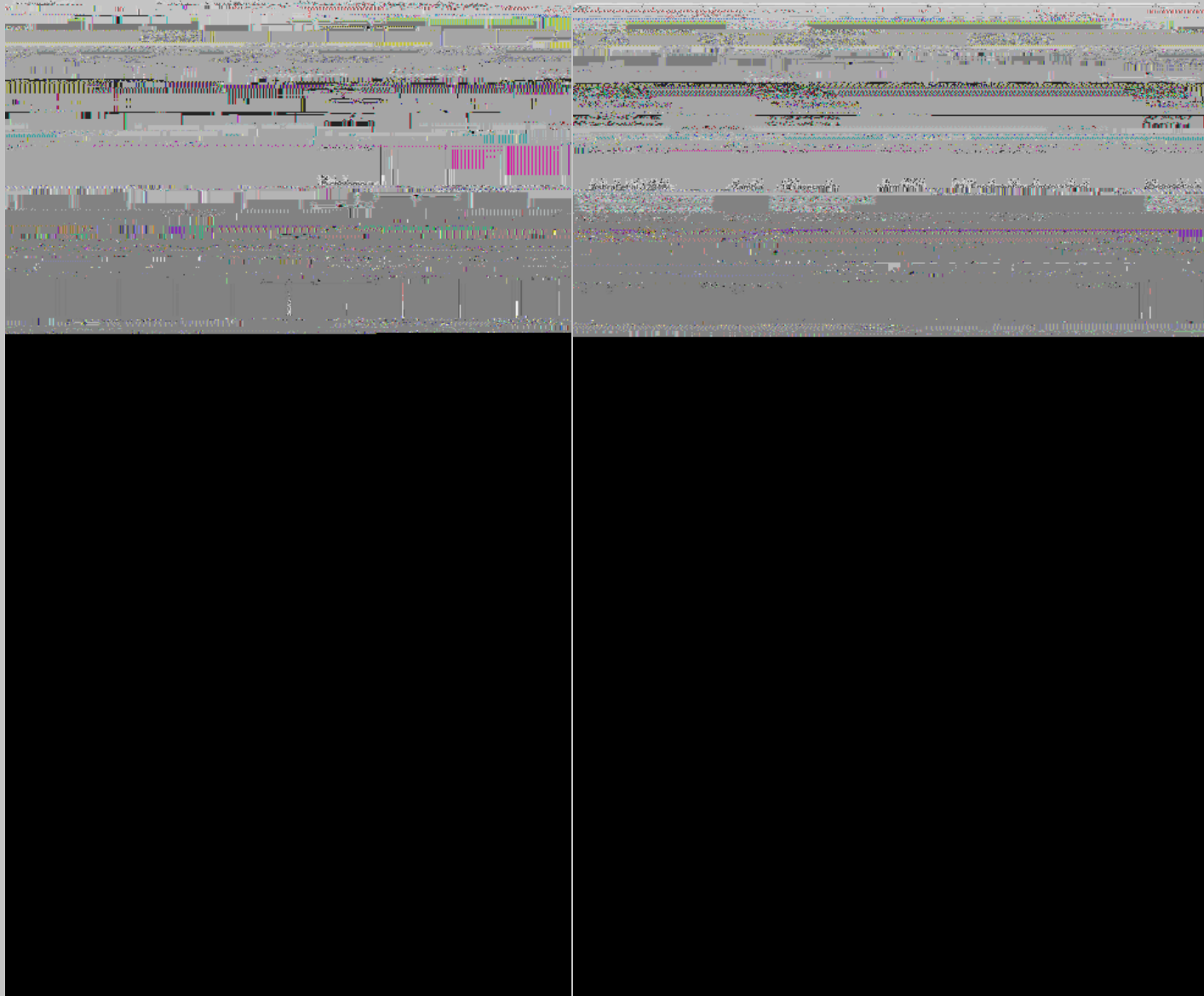
Lack of information on returns to education/ alternative roles

Inadequate life skills

Gender insensitive school environment

Poor policy / legal environment

Forest Plot showing partial correlation coefficients and 90% confidence intervals



Life skills and sexuality education: What does a wider lens suggest?

Again, we're confronted with the same challenges:

Heterogeneity of programs (content, implementation, context)

Comparison groups vary

Heterogeneity of outcome measures

Directness of evidence (multi-component programs)

Life skills and sexuality education: What does a wider lens suggest?

Mixed but broad potential for:

- SEL/Transversal/21st Century skills

- Gender (gender attitudes, child marriage)

- Sexual and reproductive health/ behavior and outcomes

- Violence

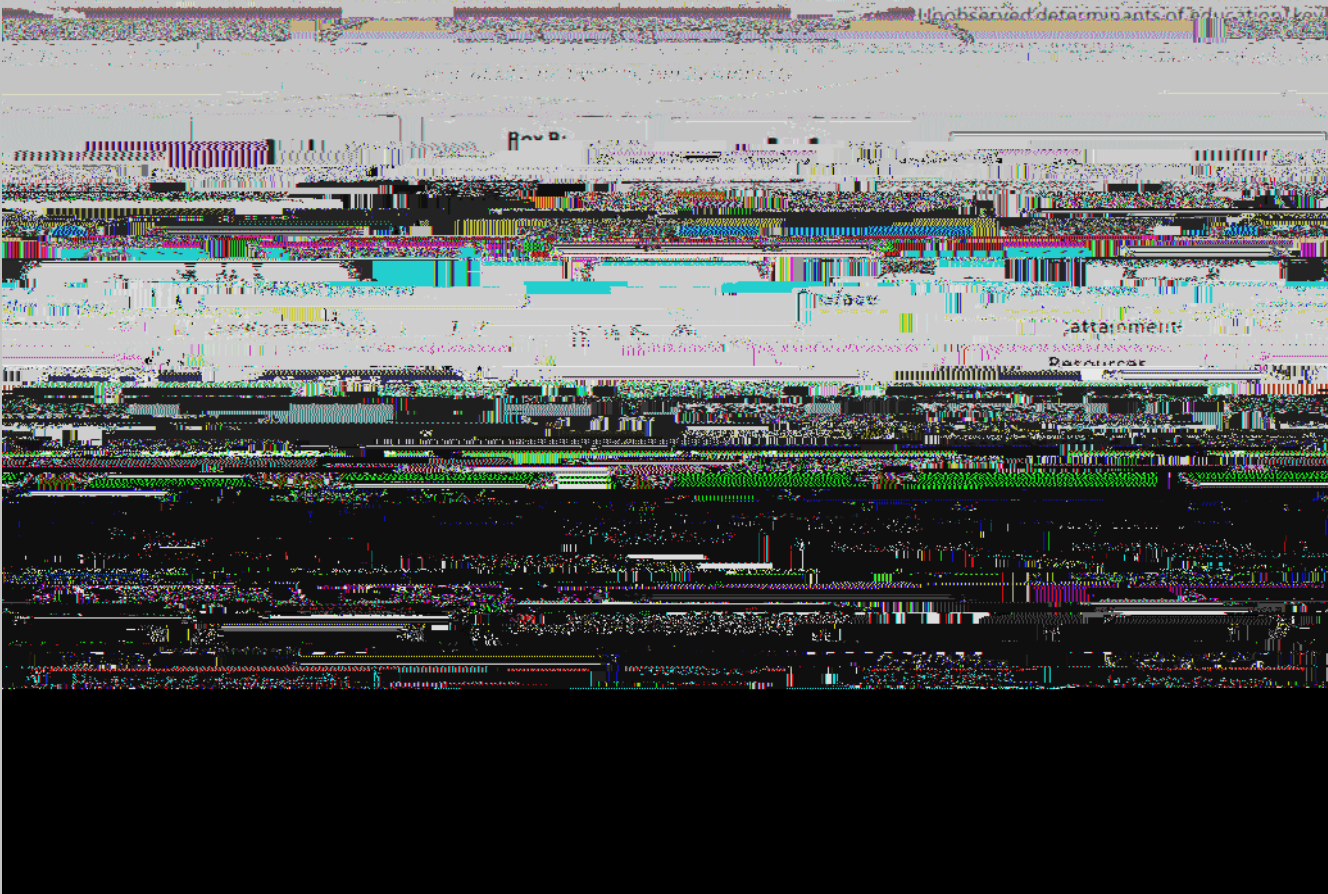
- Economic

- Education

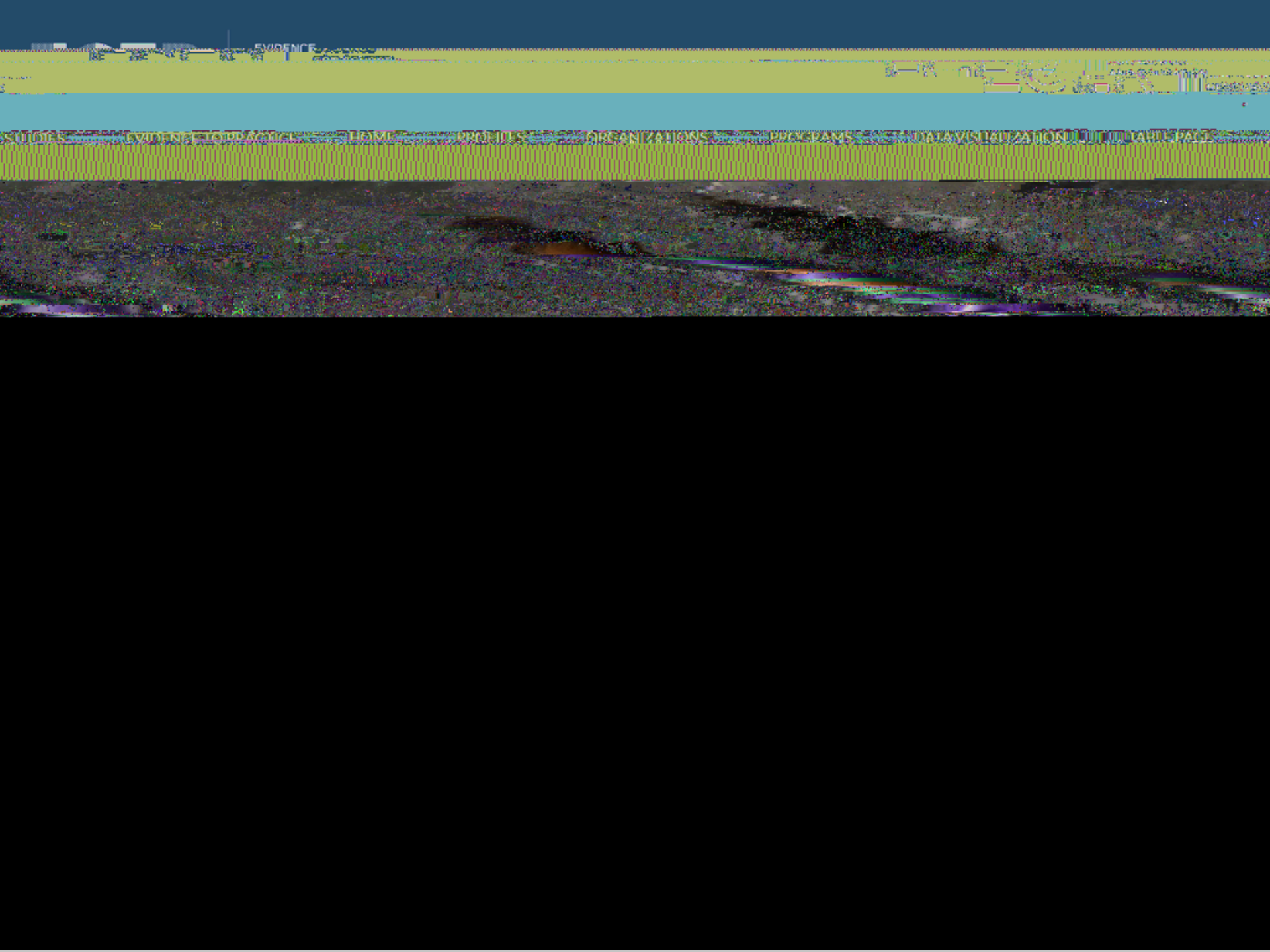
Content, complementary elements, and how
taught matters quite a bit

Lack of evidence on pathways (direct and indirect)

Underway: Systematic review of causal mechanisms linking education with fertility, HIV, and child mortality



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