

Overview

[The Global Health Education and Learning Incubator at Harvard University](#) (GHELI) supports interdisciplinary education about world health through the production, curation, and dissemination of educational public goods. This exemplar work was a final project for “World Health: Challenges and Opportunities,” a General Education course at Harvard College taught by GHELI Faculty Director Sue J. Goldie. For this creative assessment designed with support from GHELI, students systematically analyze a societal health challenge they care about and create a “real world” product intended to influence policy or motivate change.

Abstract

A series of posters raising awareness around the large impact access to clean water has on a girl’s education.

Artist

Kathryn Hodakowski (2020)

Caption

Millions of people die each year from contaminated water-related diseases, disproportionately affecting children. These illnesses take away from a child’s ability to concentrate in class or even attend school at all. Many girls do not feel comfortable using a bathroom, especially once they reach puberty, if the facility is not private and single-sex. Different cultural stigmas and norms have led to hostile learning environments for this reason. As it is the woman’s responsibility to collect water in many cultures, many girls must drop out of school to support their families. Providing access to proper WASH services has been crucial in supporting SDG 4 and 6 and investing in female education.

Artist Lens

This series of posters was made with the purpose of not only raising awareness around the large impact access to clean water has on a girl’s education but to encourage schools and policymakers to support all their students. Female education and graduation rates are strongly correlated to whether she has access to proper WASH services. I decided to use posters to convey certain emotions and images related to the emotional and psychological effects these challenges can have on girls. These posters were made to emphasize the multiple ways in which water can impact a girl’s success.

Media

Digital



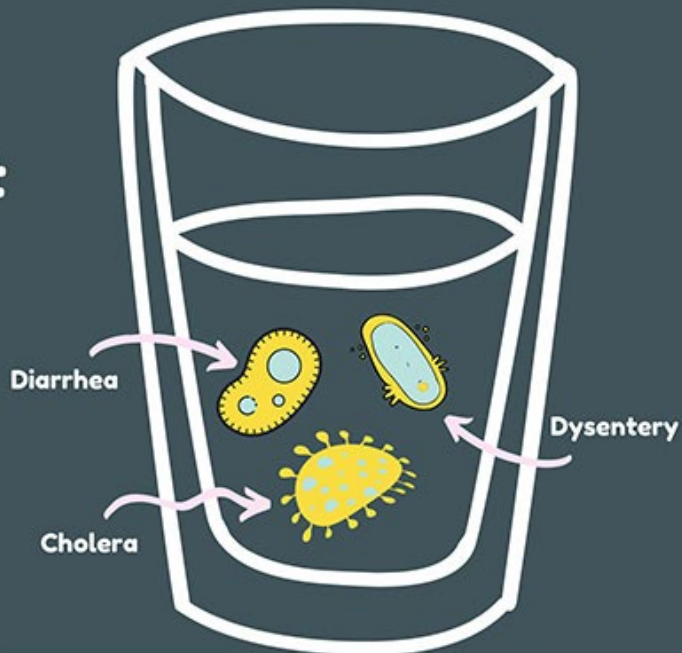
GIRLS SHOULDN'T BE FORCED TO GIVE UP A BRIGHT FUTURE UP A BRIGHT FUTURE

Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 8 out of 10 households with water off premises

Source: UNICEF

Girls should be learning about these subjects, not suffering from them

Waterborne illnesses



With proper access to WASH, graduation rates doubled for girls in a rural Ugandan village.



Maybe I should become a doctor?

...or a public health worker?

What about a Councilwoman?

Madame President?!

Source: water.org

Only 53% of schools in Sub-Saharan Africa have single-sex bathrooms, leaving girls vulnerable and without privacy



I can try and wait until class is over

I don't feel so great

...but what if I have an accident?

What if he sees me outside and hurts me again?

Maybe I should just leave and go home

I wonder what I could use from this classroom to protect myself....

Source: JMP Global Baseline Report 2019