

#LetsTalkAbortion

ASAP Update



ASAP Film Festival

This year in a prelude to Sept 28 we launched a month long Film Festival "Lets Talk Abortion". Abortion related films were showcased on our social media followed by engaging and lively conversations around these films.

The overall objective was to create awareness around the issue of abortion access and stigma in general and to give space to voices of youth from Asia in particular. The intention was to increase the visibility and encourage dialogue on women's bodily autonomy and rights.

Watch the promotion trailer **#LetsTalkAbortion**

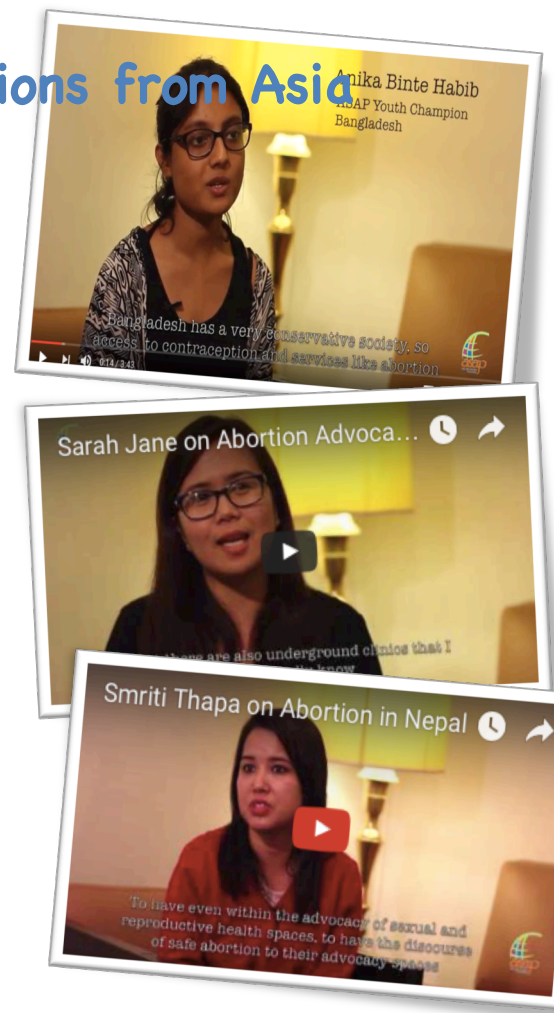


#LetsTalkAbortion



Conversations about Abortions from Asia

During the film festival we launched a video series titled 'Conversations about Abortions from Asia'. In these videos our Youth Champions talk about the situation of law and abortion access in their countries and share their experiences about working to challenge the stigma and barriers to safe abortion access women face. Watch Videos here: <http://asap-asia.org/youth-champions/>



Lets Talk About Abortion

For Sept 28th we launched a video created by ASAP youth champions. The video highlights the stigma and barriers to abortion access in Asia and underscores the need to have more positive conversations around Abortion. Watch the video



Activities by Youth Champion

[YouthCANN](#) Youth Champions Advocacy Network Nepal Conducted a Flashmob along with Bhaktapur Youth Information Forum Universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, including safe abortion, that respects their rights to privacy and confidentiality and are easily accessible, elimination of violence, coercion and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.



Youth Champion Advocacy Network Nepal (Youth CANN) also participated in the candle light ceremony organized on the special occasion of International day of action on safe abortion [#sept28](#) , remembering all those who lost their lives due to unsafe abortion. [#solidarity](#)



[YANSL](#) – Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka conducted an online campaign busting myths that surround abortion and also joined the [#StepintoOurShoes](#) Campaign calling upon women and girls to voice their struggles for the reproductive justice. They invited quote emphasizing the importance of safe abortion, stats in SL, real stories related to unsafe and illegal abortion.



Dr. Souvik Pyne organized a small event at Indian Institute of Public Health, Bhubaneswar (IIPHB), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). It was an attempt to reiterate the public health importance and spread awareness about issues pertaining to safe abortion. The events comprised of a briefing session, public awareness drive, safe abortion related film screening and discussions, power walk and shoethon.



Blogs by Youth Champions:

[#LetsTalkAbortion by Youth Champion Dr. Souvik Pyne](#)

[Lets Talk Abortion by Youth Champion Shreejana Bajracharya](#)

[Denial of Abortion Services in Nepal by Youth Champion Shreejana Bajracharya](#)

Video Series:

YANSL Be the Change- Be the Change is a series of interviews done with young men from Asia Pacific supporting the women's bodily rights. We believe that in order to achieve equality for women, men need to be part of the solution. Equality is only achievable if we work together.

Watch here: <https://youtu.be/D6KnWF4whGo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocXDa7HetB4>

List of films shared during the film festival-

From Unwanted Pregnancy to Safe Abortion!

Unplanned pregnancies are not uncommon. Unfortunately not all women who want to terminate such a pregnancy have access to safe abortion. This video shows the various social and legal barriers that women seeking abortion in Asia face. It shows why safe abortion is a right, and why the lack of safe abortion services is both a public health and human rights issue. The film is available in with subtitles in the below languages.

[Sinhalese Subtitles](#)

[Hindi Subtitles](#)

[Nepali Subtitles](#)

[Vietnamese Subtitles](#)

[Arabic Subtitles](#)

TaMa Ba? Is it Justified?

TaMa Ba (Is It Justified?), a film that explores the roots of abortion stigma in the Philippines, where unsafe abortion is a major health issue, and safe abortion is not yet legally available. ASAP youth champion Sarah Jane made this film as part of the Small Grants

The Drop

Shathi, from Dhaka is suffering complications from unsafe abortion. Like her, each year, an estimated 572,000 women suffer complications from unsafe abortion, but only 40% of those who need treatment actually receive care from a facility. ASAP youth champion Anika Binte Habib made this film as part of the Small Grants.

SRHR Champions Workshop

Asia Safe Abortion Partnership and National Forum for women partnered with National Forum for Women with disabilities to conduct the first of its kind workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights for women with disabilities in Pakistan.

[It's Her Right- To Mr. President](#)

Safe and Legal abortion is every woman's right! Restriction of safe abortion is a violation of Human Rights. There are more than 600- 700 abortions happening every day yet the law related to abortion in Sri Lanka is restricted. Women's lives are at risk! It's Her Right

[Tainted \(Abortion Situation in the Philippines\)](#)

This is a short documentary made by Youth Champion Sarah Jane highlighting the abortion stigma in Filipino society

[Abortion is black and white](#)

Abortion is black and white. Women, who need an abortion, should get a safe abortion. Short film by ASAP Youth Champions gives a simple message loud and clear - Laws and Policies should promote and protect Women's right to #SafeAbortion

[Patriarchy in Hospitals- Amar Jesani](#)

"Both Medical as well as Nursing profession should become more supportive of reproductive health where our real success lies"- An Interview with Dr. Amar Jesani on overcoming #patriarchy in Hospitals

[Decriminalizing of Abortions In Nepal- Part I](#)

Interview, Dr. Anand Tamang, director of @CREHPA #Nepal talks about the situation in Nepal before #abortion was #decriminalized. He elaborates the stories of the women who were arrested and prosecuted for seeking terminations

[Decriminalizing of Abortions In Nepal- Part II](#)

Sapana Pradhan Mala from Nepal reveals the legal battles fought to make abortions legal in Nepal

[Decriminalizing of Abortions In Nepal- Part III](#)

Dr. Indira Basnett, Director of Ipas Nepal talks about the challenges faced after legalization of abortion in Nepal, and the continuing struggle to improve maternal health. She explains how the country is working on making abortion accessible, affordable and acceptable for all women around Nepal

[ASAP Monumental Campaign](#)

17 women's rights advocates in 17 of the most beautiful monumental places in the world call upon governments to recognize that women have needed to and have had abortions for longer than these world famous monuments exist! It is time to recognize this as a woman's right and save their lives, which are more precious than any pile of stones and mortar.

[The Drop](#)

Watch this powerful documentary made by youth champion Anika highlighting the situation of safe abortion services in Bangladesh

[It's Her Right- To Mr. President](#)

Safe and Legal abortion is every woman's right! Restriction of safe abortion is a violation of Human Rights. There are more than 600- 700 abortions happening every

day yet the law related to abortion in Sri Lanka is restricted. Women's lives are at risk!
It's Her Right

[Grandma \(2015\)](#)

Grandma is a welcome departure from the covert pontification of the pregnancy films that prefer to play it safe. To make abortion one of the central themes in a comedy is a bit of a subtle reminder about the importance of representation—not just of people, but of life events as well. In Grandma, abortion comes back into the cultural conversation not as a demonized political talking point, but as an important procedure many women obtain for themselves—a basic right that's clearly not accessible to all. (Film Trailer)

[Women For Women - Youths for women's health \[Documentary\]](#)

This documentary made by Youth Champion @pu_karki & @DeepaPradhan450 is a part of small grant project supported by Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP) in which Youth Champions from Nepal, Bonita Sharma and Bidhya Basnet conducted a sensitization program targeting the Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) with major focus on the issue of safe abortion in Dumkauli, Nawalparasi

[Abortionfilms movie If These Walls Could Talk](#)

Nancy Savoca's and Cher's star-studded episodic film presents a critical view of the ever-growing conservative forces in America that, on the one hand, scorn consultation and advice about contraception as "immoral" and, on the other hand, bring up the guns against abortion. The film tells the story of three women who live in the same house in different decades and who are all confronted with the problem of an unwanted pregnancy. In 1952 the newly widowed nurse Clare goes and sees a back-street abortionist in order to put an end to her pregnancy. After giving birth to three children, Barbara at last has the realistic hope of finding a job again, but then a new pregnancy thwarts her plans. In 1974 abortion is already legal; however, this fact does not make it any easier for Barbara to take the right decision. In 1996 Christine, a student, consults an abortion clinic to get information on abortion. While doing this, she is being harassed by militant anti-abortionists.

[What is abortion stigma?](#)

What is #abortionstigma? How does it impact people seeking #abortionservices? How does it impact abortion providers? Watch this educational video by @SeaChangeProg

[Abortionfilms movie Trapped](#)

Trapped follows the struggles of the clinic workers and lawyers who are on the front lines of a battle to keep abortion safe & legal for millions of women

[Abortionfilms movie The Vessel, about Women on Waves](#)

VESSEL, a timely, provocative, and mobilizing film about the work of Women on Waves. VESSEL begins with a young doctor who lived by the sea, and an unlikely idea. Rebecca Gomperts, horrified by the realities created by anti-abortion law around the world, felt compelled to challenge this. Her method: to provide abortions on a ship in offshore waters. Her project, Women on Waves, begins as flawed spectacle, a media frenzy, faced with governmental, religious, and military blockades. But with each setback comes a more refined mission, until Rebecca has

the revelation that she can use new technologies to bypass law – and train women to give themselves safe abortions using WHO-sanctioned protocols with pills. We witness the creation of an underground network of emboldened, informed activists, working at the cutting edge of global reproductive rights, who trust women to handle abortion themselves.

Series- Conversations on Abortion From Asia

- [*Anika Habib on "Menstrual Regulation" or Abortion in Bangladesh*](#)
- [*Bidya Basnet & Bonita Sharma*](#)
- [*Smriti Thapa on Abortion in Nepal*](#)
- [*Priskila Arulpragasam on abortion in Sri Lanka*](#)
- [*Dawn Macahilo on Reproductive Health and Rights in the Philippines*](#)
- [*Yadanar Aung talks about sexual and reproductive health in Myanmar*](#)
- [*Nadine Moawad on the politics of the internet*](#)
- [*Manisha Gupte on Sharpening our Politics of Intersectionality*](#)
- [*Dr. Suchitra Dalvie on Abortion in Asia*](#)
- [*Dr. Amar Jesani on Medical Ethics and Abortion*](#)
- [*Manisha Gupte on sex selection and abortion in India*](#)

[Lets Talk About Abortion](#)

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ASAP Film Festival Trailer