

“One accurate measurement is worth a thousand expert opinions”

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Global Health
Institute



Virtual Workshop on Family Planning, Women's Empowerment, and Population and Societal Impacts
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Grace Hopper (1906-1992)



1. Selecting measures of empowerment for your research
2. Gaps in current measures and research
3. Sexual & Reproductive Empowerment Scale for Adolescents & Young Adults
4. New UCGHI Gender & Empowerment Measures Database
(<http://www.empowermentmeasures.org/>)



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Review

Women's empowerment and fertility: A review of the literature



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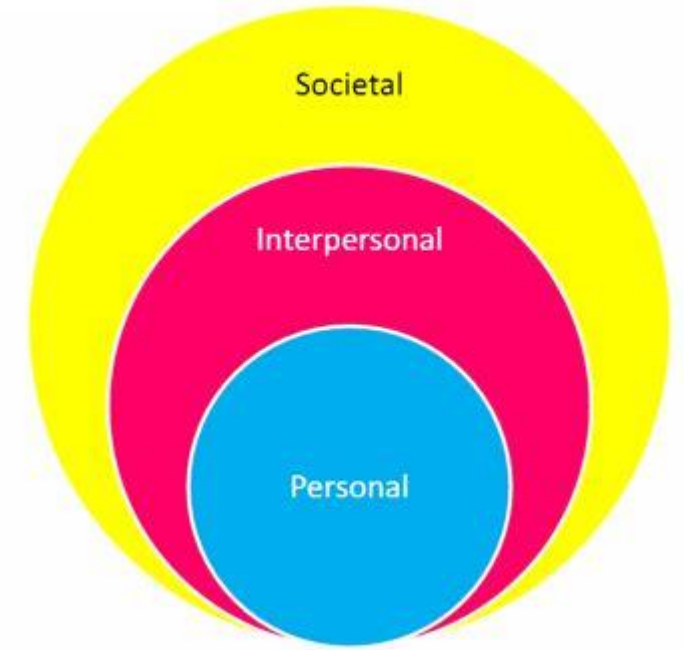
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■ Decide on the level of measure

- Individual
- Interpersonal
- Societal-level (Local/Community, Regional, National)



- Consider how to measure a process
 - Process of bargaining, negotiating, making choices in the face of resistance

Choosing a Measure

- Does the measure distinguish between lack of options and conscious choices?

(Must have alternatives available to choose from for it to be a choice)



Choosing a Measure

- Select an appropriate domain of empowerment
 - Indices that combine domains may mask greater empowerment in individual areas, and can result in insignificant effects.



Research Gaps

■ Gaps in Measures

- Non-marital relationships
- Adolescents and young adults
- Non-heteronormative relationships

■ Research Gaps

- Studies that examine empowerment at multiple levels
- Impact of declines in fertility and increased contraceptive use on women's and girls empowerment
- Impact of gender transformative approaches on women's empowerment

Why are we interested in increasing women's empowerment?

- ~~To reduce fertility~~
- ~~To increase family planning~~
- To increase women's empowerment
- To increase reproductive autonomy

The Sexual & Reproductive Empowerment Scale for Adolescents & Young Adults

(SRE Scale for AYA)

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Phoebe Danza, MPH

Claire Brindis, PhD—UCSF

Diana Greene Foster, PhD—UCSF

Jessica Gipson, PhD—UCLA

Michelle Hindin, PhD—Population Council

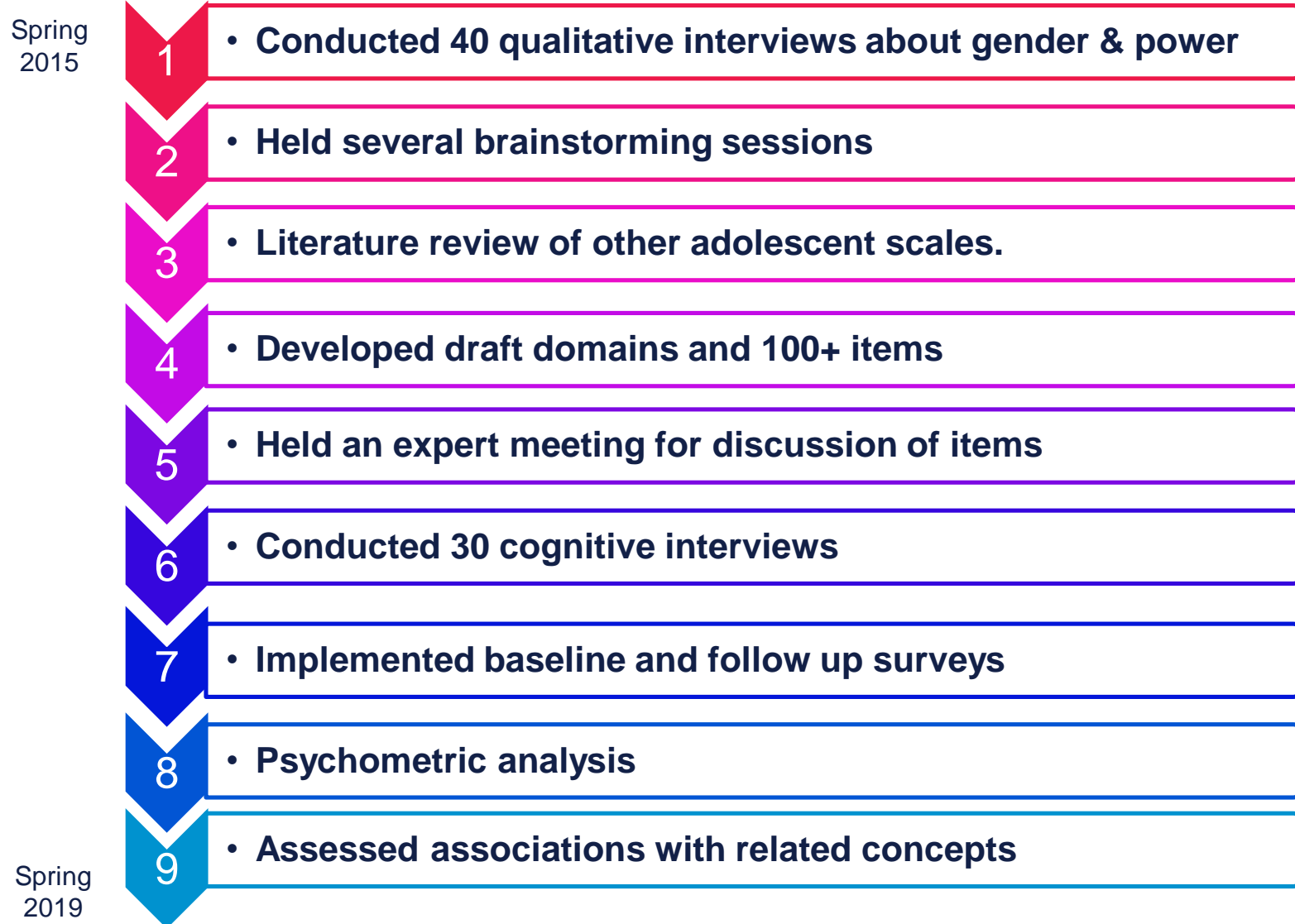
Tor Neilands, PhD—UCSF

Shari Dworkin, PhD, MPH—University of Washington

- To consider empowerment as a predictor of desired contraceptive use among adolescents and young adults (ages 15-24).

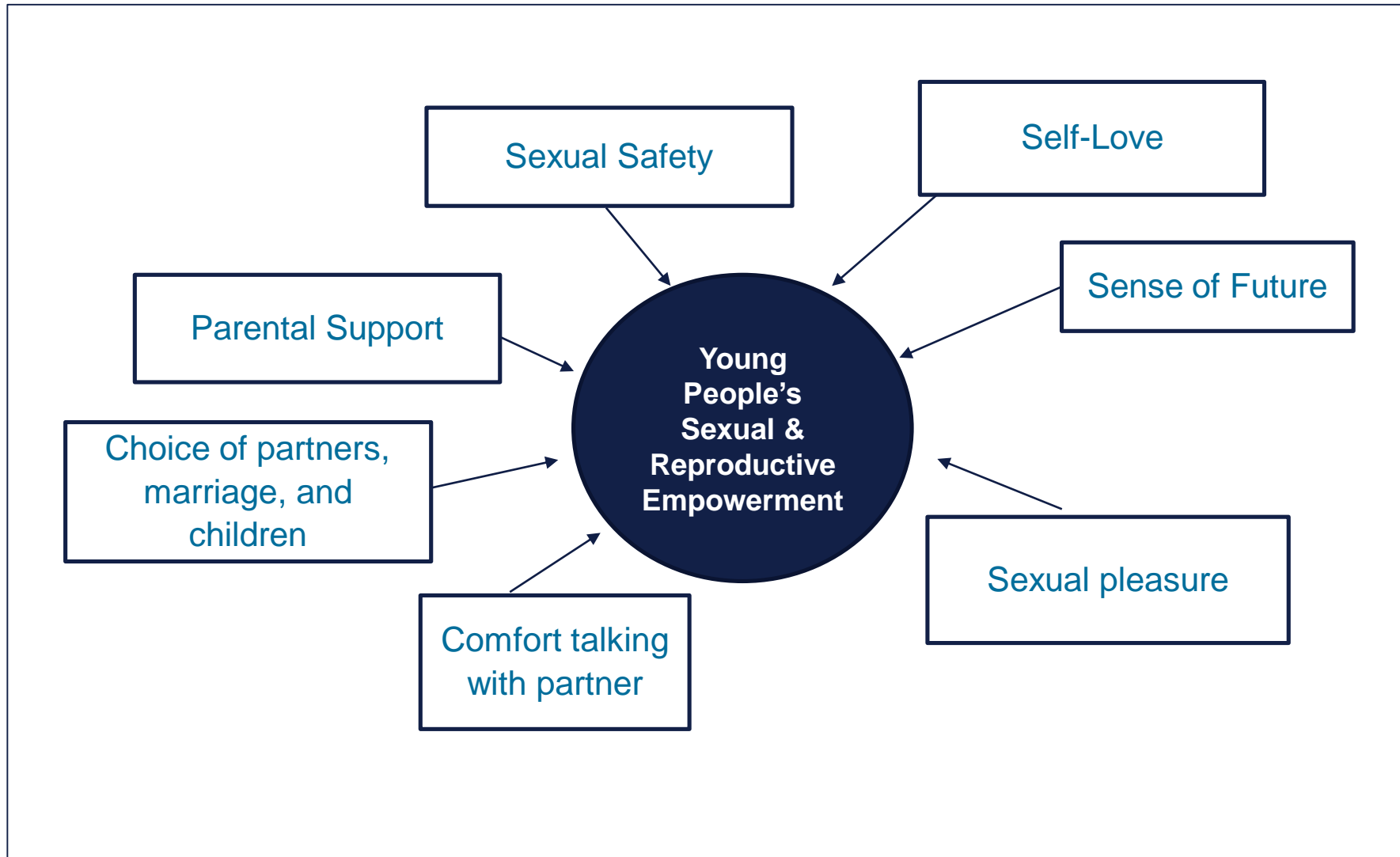


Methods: Item pool development



Slide 14

SRE Scale for AYA: 7 domains, 23 item scale



UCGHI Empowerment Measures Database



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<http://www.empowermentmeasures.org/>

Measures of Women's Empowerment Database

Welcome to the Database of Gender and Women's Empowerment Measures. You can use this tool to find different measures of gender equity and levels of empowerment. The measures in this database have been used in research on a wide range women's health topics and have been used in domestic and global situations.

Created by the Center of Expertise in Women's Health, Gender, and Empowerment (WHGE CoE) at the University of California Global Health Institute (UCGHI), this collection of measures explores constructs of gender equity and empowerment and their associations with women's health and well-being. ANSIRH faculty are active members of UCGHI's Center of Expertise on Women's Health and Empowerment.

Measures Global Indices Demographic Surveys Reviews About the Database

Search Measures

Advanced Search

Name of Measure	Published	Developed by
Attitudes toward Women Scale (AWS)	1973	Janet T. Spence, Robert Helmreich

Thank you!

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