

*“Sexuality is not just physical – it is also socio-cultural, spiritual, and psychological. Everyone has the right to sex education that encompasses all of these aspects.”*

Sexual and reproductive health and rights matters regarding Persons with Disabilities with an aim of creating a more inclusive society for everyone has always been pointed solely at the government based on the important role it has to play, but the truth holds that so do agencies that offer support to persons with disability, as well as each individual existing within a community. Much the same as every other individual, PwDs have the human stimulus for sexual expression. This equates them to the same human rights, sentiments, sexual desires, requirements and visions for family as anybody else.

It is important to realize how to define limits, and what is more, how to ensure against disregard of the right to the highest attainable standards of health for everyone including PwD, which is guaranteed constitutionally in Article 43, reinforced by the right to non-discrimination in article 27. At the end of the day: all individuals – both male and female – with or without disability have similar needs as far as access to SRHR information, services and rights go, with the goal that they can celebrate fulfilling sexual lives and having a choice for family, when, and with whom they need. It is quite often that SRHR needs of persons with disability are regularly neglected. A widespread misguided opinion exists, that proposes that PwDs are asexual, and that as far as affection, connections and having youngsters, it is believed to be ideal if people with disabilities try not to wander into these territories, for the wellbeing of their own and that of society. With the inconvenience of such negative thoughts, and disclosing to them they are unwanted and not deserving of wants, all things considered, the confidence of individuals with handicaps is smothered. Thus, they probably won't look for access to SRHR services of their choice.

Dance into Space, under the Breaking Barriers project, aims to raise this kind of awareness and to inspire discussions regarding how trivial the subject has been treated. This is through art, that is, dance, with a mixed ability set of dancers communicating various messages through choreographed performances to audiences in the community. The main aim of the strategy is to ‘break barriers’ of cultural norms and malpractices, including retrogressive thoughts that criminalized anybody with any form of disability. The goal is to see to it that the minority group stands accepted, respected and represented at tables of decision making for purposes of

inclusivity in SRHR programs, and to equally help influence policies with long-term outputs that favor PwDs.

Onyimbi Nelson.