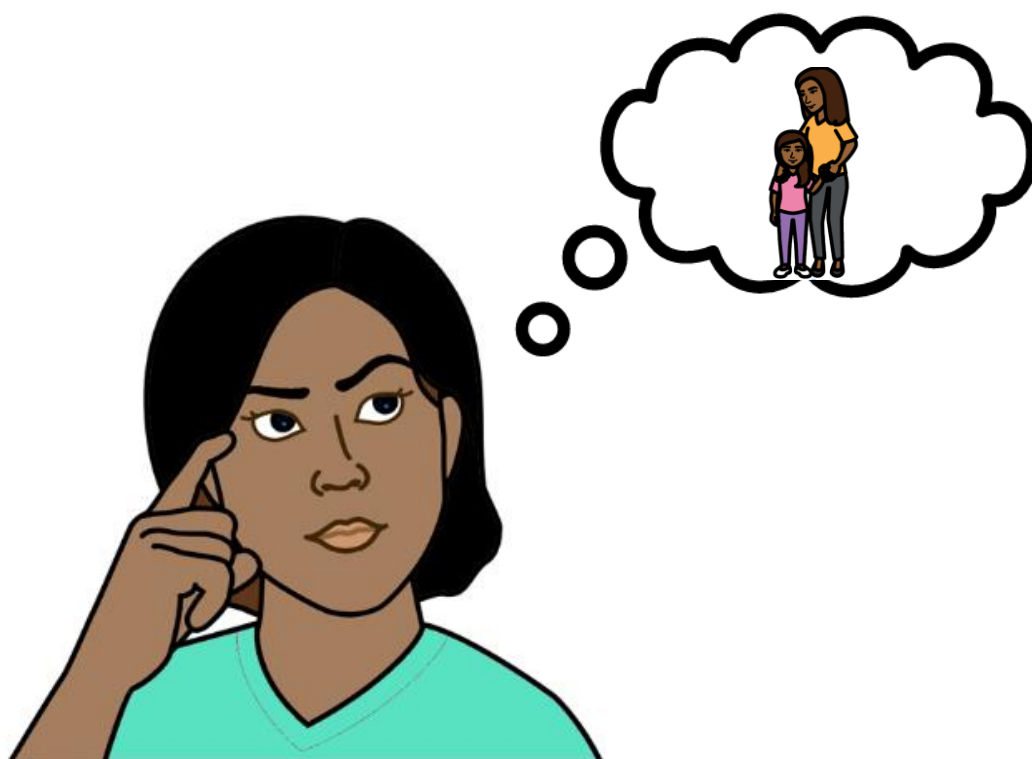




Our meeting about the rights of people with disabilities to do with their bodies, sex and having children



About this document



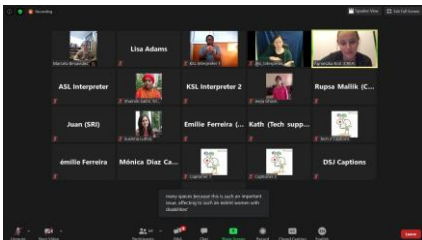
We are called **Crea** and the **Sexual Rights Initiative**.



We work to make sure that people around the world are treated fairly and get their rights.

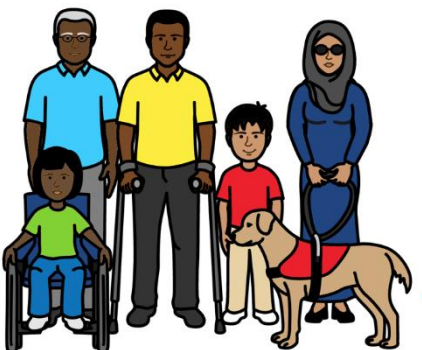


We had a meeting about the rights of people with disabilities to do with their bodies, sex, relationships and having children.



The meeting was on 4 December 2020.

The meeting was on the internet.



It was part of a big event about the rights of people with disabilities in the world.



Some people with disabilities spoke at the meeting.

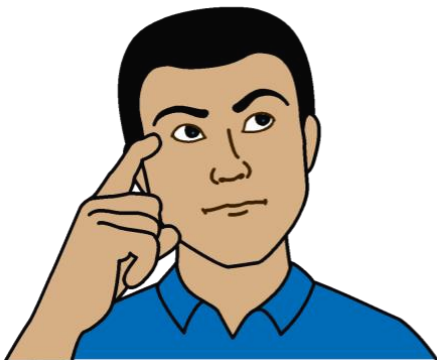
They were called Shamim, Jeeja and Marcela.

They work to support the rights of people with disabilities in Kenya, India and Chile.



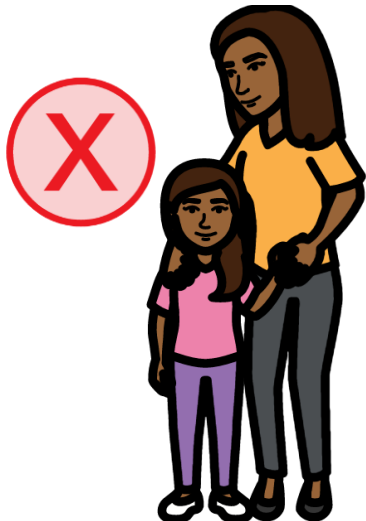
The meeting was about what is happening to people with disabilities in their countries and around the world.

For example:



People often have unfair ideas about people with disabilities.

People might think that people with disabilities are less important than other people.



People might think that people with disabilities should not have sex and children.



People with disabilities are often left out and treated badly because of what people think about them.

For example:

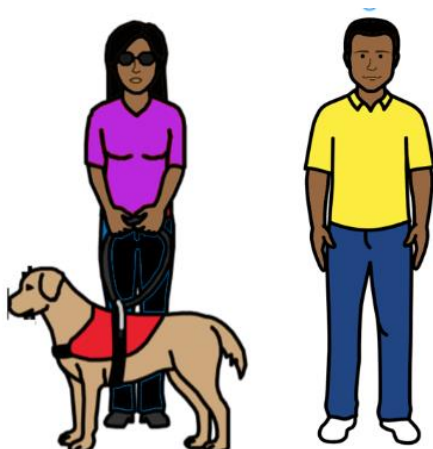


- Many people with disabilities cannot get the health care and support they need.
- People often make choices for people with disabilities about their bodies, sex and having children.



That is why we must keep talking about the rights of people with disabilities.

People with disabilities in this document means women and girls with disabilities.



It also means people with disabilities who are not the gender that people say they are.

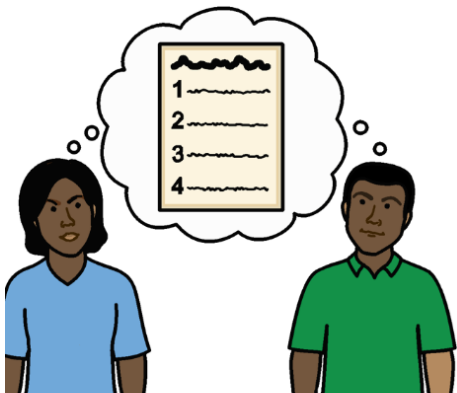
Gender means whether someone is a woman, a girl, a man, a boy or someone else.

What is happening in Kenya



Shamim from Kenya talked about people with disabilities in Kenya.

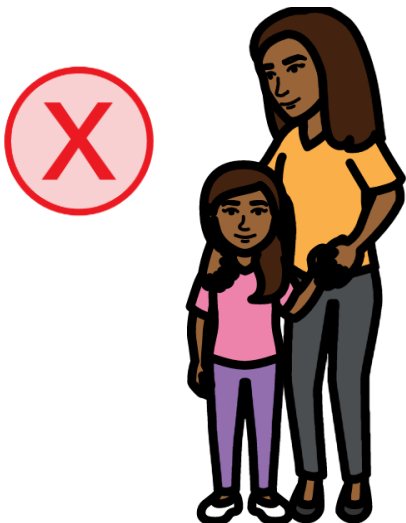
Many laws in Kenya do not support the rights of people with disabilities.



The law says that people with disabilities are not allowed to make their own choices about some things.

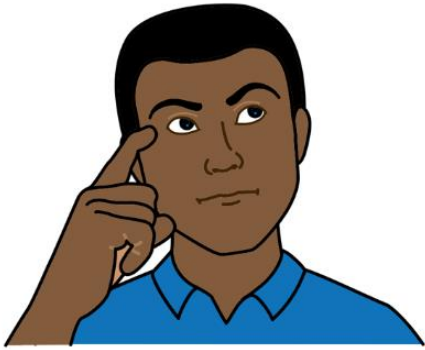
This includes people with intellectual disabilities.

Other people can make choices for them.



For example, people often make people with disabilities have medical treatment to stop them having children.

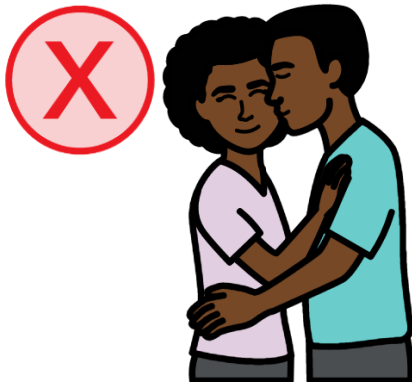
No one asks people with disabilities first.



This is because many people in Kenya and other places have unfair ideas about people with disabilities.



People might think that people with intellectual disabilities do not have the right to have sex or make choices about their bodies.



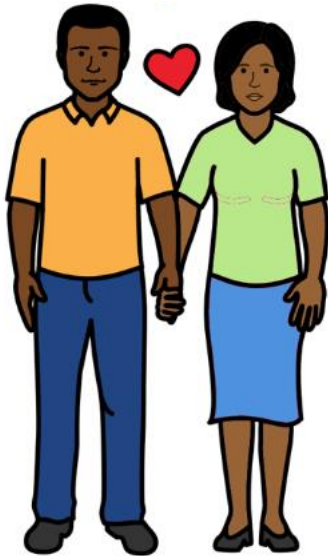
People might think that people with disabilities do not want to have sex.

Or they want too much sex.



But people with disabilities do not get much help if someone forces them to have sex.

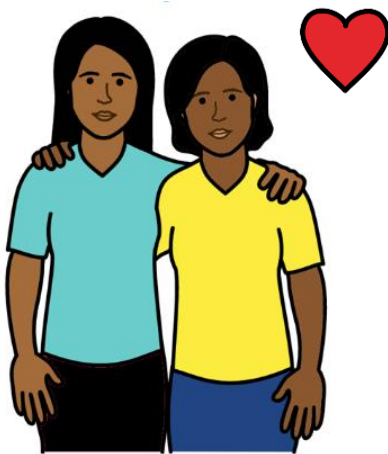
For example, the police might not do much about it.



People might think that people with disabilities who do have sex must be straight.

Straight means a man who wants a relationship with a woman.

Or a woman who wants a relationship with a man.



But some people with disabilities might want different relationships.



It is hard for many people with disabilities to get the right health care to do with their bodies, sex and having children.

For example, information is often hard to understand.

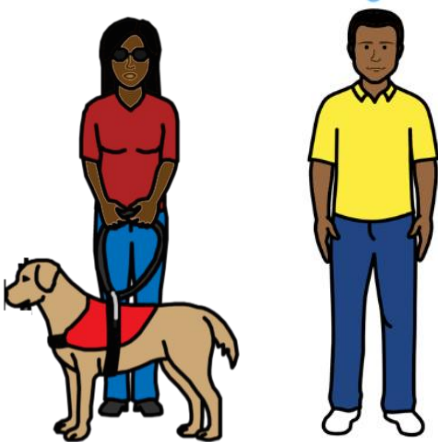


And buildings and health services might be hard for people with disabilities to use.



It is hard for many people with disabilities who are pregnant to make their own choices about their bodies.

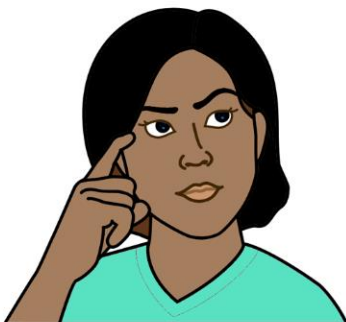
It is hard for people to get information and support to help them make choices.



These problems can be even worse for some people with disabilities.

For example, people with disabilities who are not the gender that people say they are.

And people with disabilities who are not straight.



Some people choose to stop being pregnant if they think their baby might be born with a disability.



We must tell people about the rights of all people with disabilities to do with their bodies, sex, their periods and having children.

What is happening in India

Jeeja from India talked about people with disabilities in India.



The law In India stops many women with disabilities from making their own choices.

For example, choices about their bodies and relationships.



Other people often make choices for them.

Like family and carers.



No one teaches people with disabilities how to make their own choices.



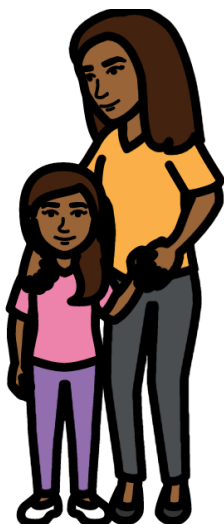
No one really talks about women with disabilities and what they need to do with sex and having children.



Many people think it is wrong for people with disabilities to think about sex and relationships.

People might think that people with disabilities should not be parents.

Some people might take children away from parents with disabilities.



There are many problems for people with disabilities being parents.

But many people with disabilities are parents and do a great job.

For example, Jeeja is a parent.

What is happening in Chile



Marcela from Chile talked about people with disabilities in Chile.

Many people with disabilities in Chile have been stopped from having children.



The government looked into what was happening.

They found that many people in Chile were forced to have medical treatment to stop them having children.



This happened to some people more than others.

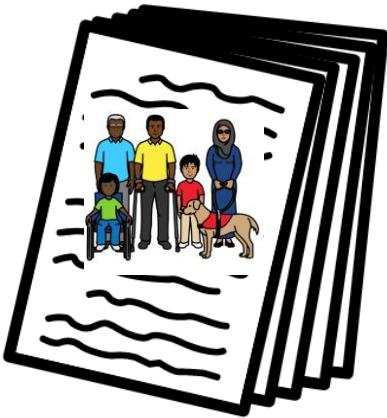
For example:

- People with disabilities
- Poor people
- Groups of people who have lived in Chile for a very long time before other groups of people arrived



People often stop people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental health conditions from having children.

The law says it is OK to stop them having children even if they might want to.

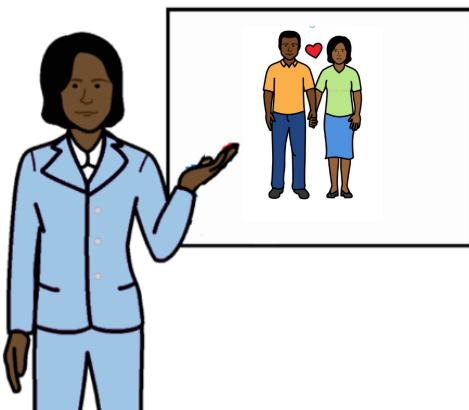


There is an important document about the rights of people with disabilities in the world.

Chile has promised to do what the document says.

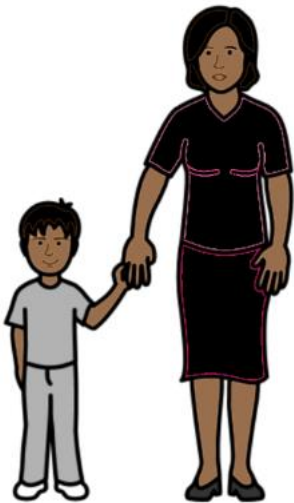


But Chile still has the law that stops some people with disabilities from having children.



The government did give people some education on sex and relationships.

This was after a lot of work by organizations of women with disabilities.



Marcela is doing work on the rights of people with disabilities to:

- Get pregnant and have children if they want to
- Get the right care while they are pregnant
- Get enough money and support to be parents



There is also a new group of women with disabilities.

They help other people with disabilities to know their rights about their bodies, sex and having children.



They are helping people to understand that people with disabilities are just like everyone else.