



8th SA AIDS CONFERENCE

“Strengthening Sexuality Education in the Curriculum- a Key lever for Change.”

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basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Presentation Outline

- 1. Problem Statement**
- 2. National Development Plan**
- 3. World Education Forum**
- 4. Sexuality: Key Lever for change**
- 5. Sexuality & Life Orientation**
- 6. Conclusion**



INTRODUCTION

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

Nelson Mandela



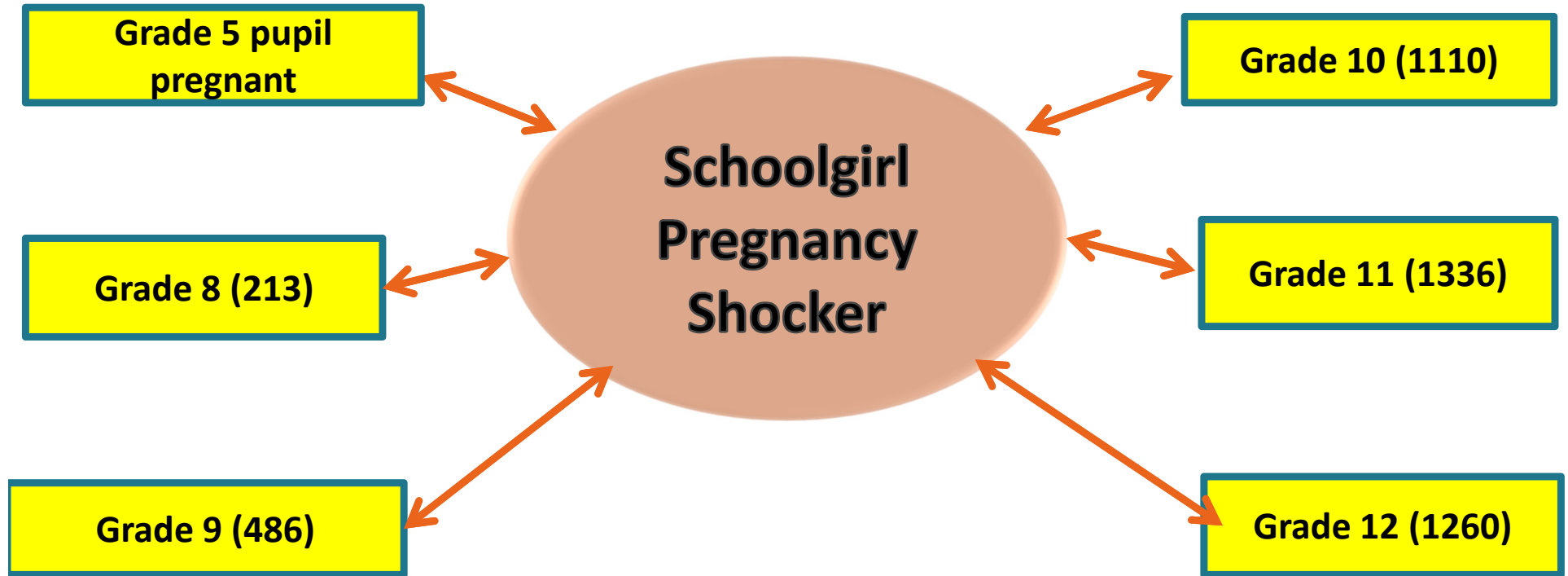
PROBLEM STATEMENT

- **HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB)** are chronic diseases that have reached epidemic proportions in South Africa;
- Increase in **sexual abuse, gender based violence, transactional sex**, amongst youth;
- **Teenage pregnancy** is still of **grave concern** in South African schools.
- Boys and girls as **young as 9 and 10** engage in **sexual activity**.
- **Females** aged **15-19** have significantly **higher HIV** prevalence rate than males of the same age.



GAUTENG DoE: 2016 STATISTICS

4446 Schoolgirls Pregnant



Educators having sexual relations with pupils

The Star: 6 June 2017

NDP: Demographics and Health Trends

- The **health challenges** facing South Africa are well documented. The country faces a quadruple **burden of disease**:
 - **HIV/AIDS** and related diseases such as **tuberculosis (TB)**, and **sexually transmitted infections (STI)**
 - **Maternal and child morbidity and mortality**
 - **Non-communicable diseases** (mainly related to lifestyle)
 - **Violence, injuries and trauma.**

National Development Plan, pg. 331



NDP: Demographics and Health Trends

- The estimated HIV prevalence rate in 2012 was about **10.6 percent**, with the total number of people living with HIV/AIDS having risen from **4.21 million in 2001** to an estimated **5.4 million in 2011**. This number is projected to rise to **7.3 million by 2030**.
- The **highest levels are among youth**: an estimated **16.6 percent** of those aged between **15 and 49** are HIV positive.

National Development Plan, pg. 101



DECLARATION AT WORLD EDUCATION FORUM 2015

**“Healthy bodies, bright minds:
Health, HIV and Sexuality
Education”.**

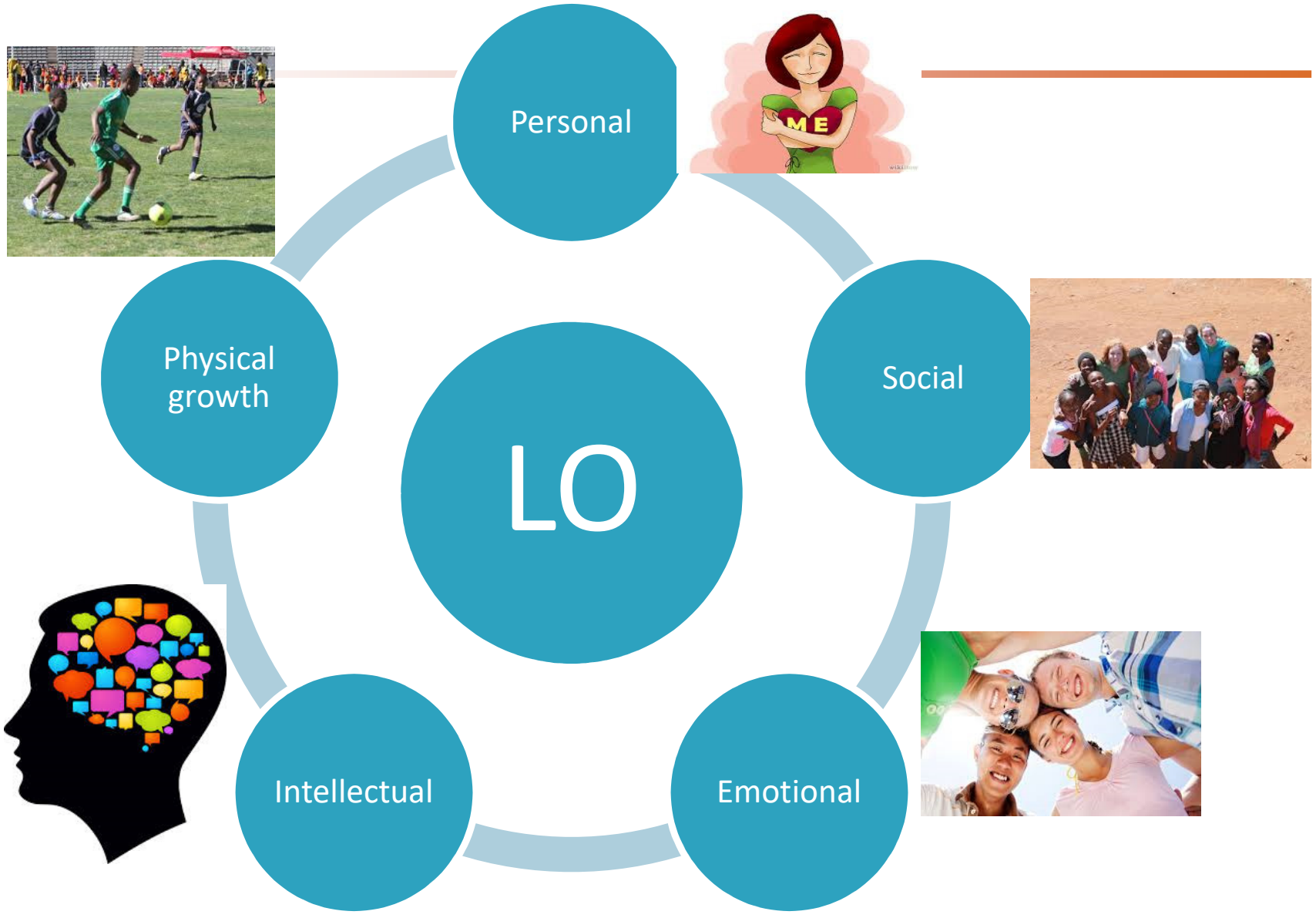
- Focus on **role of sexuality education** in improving health & gender equality.
- Focuses on inter-relationship between **health & education.**



SEXUALITY EDUCATION: KEY LEVER FOR CHANGE

- The best place to instil **lifestyle change** in behaviours is at schools.
- **Education empowers** the youth to take control over their lives.
- Sexuality education via the **school curriculum** is a key lever to effect change.





SEXUALITY EDUCATION IN THE CLASSROOM

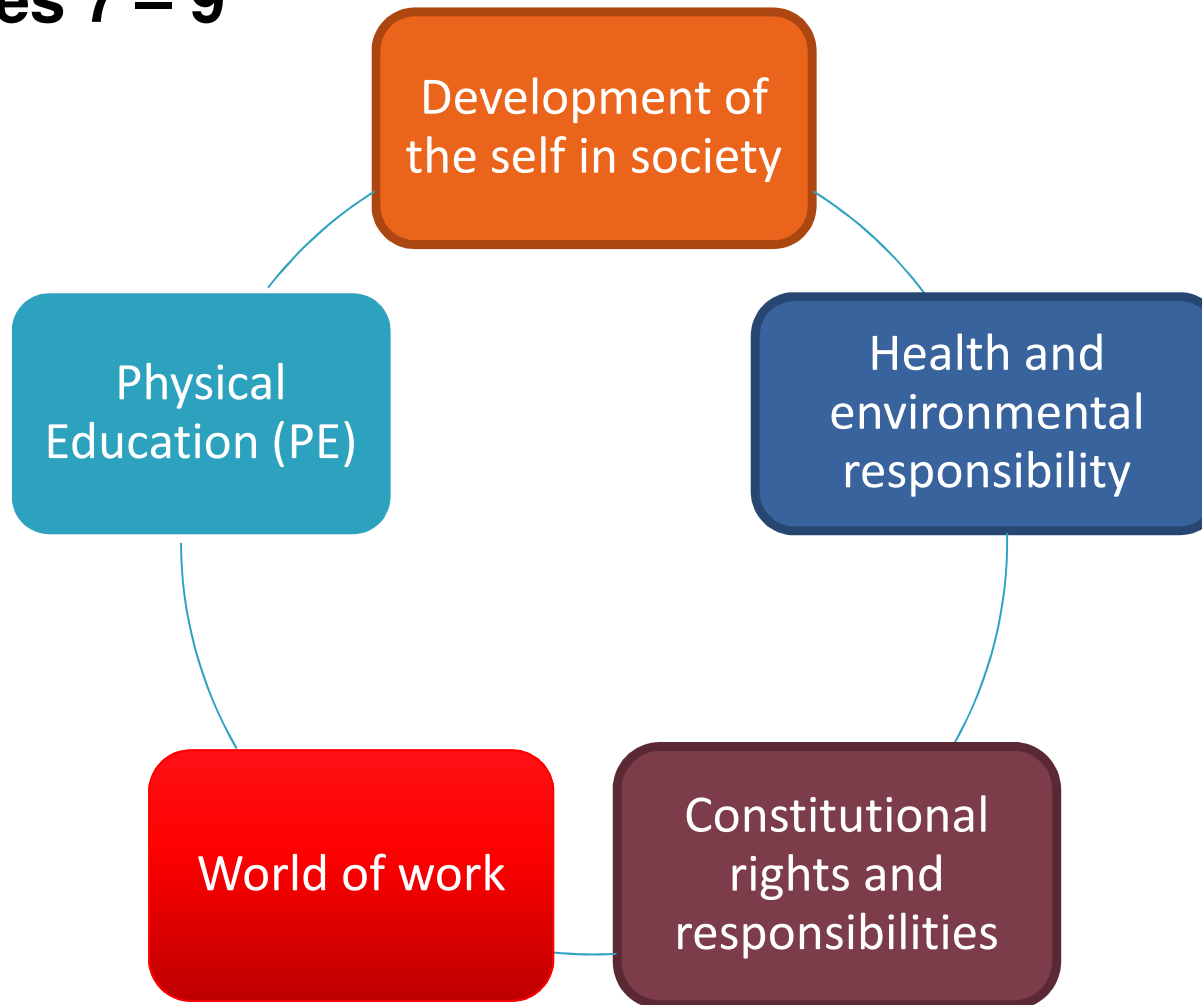
Core messages up to Adulthood:

- **SAFEST** choice is **NOT** to have sex.
- **RIGHT** to say **NO** to sex in **ANY** situation.
- If you are ready to have sex, **ALWAYS BE SAFE, GET TESTED FOR HIV AND OTHER STIs REGULARLY.**
- **BOTH** men and women are responsible for preventing pregnancy, HIV and other STIs

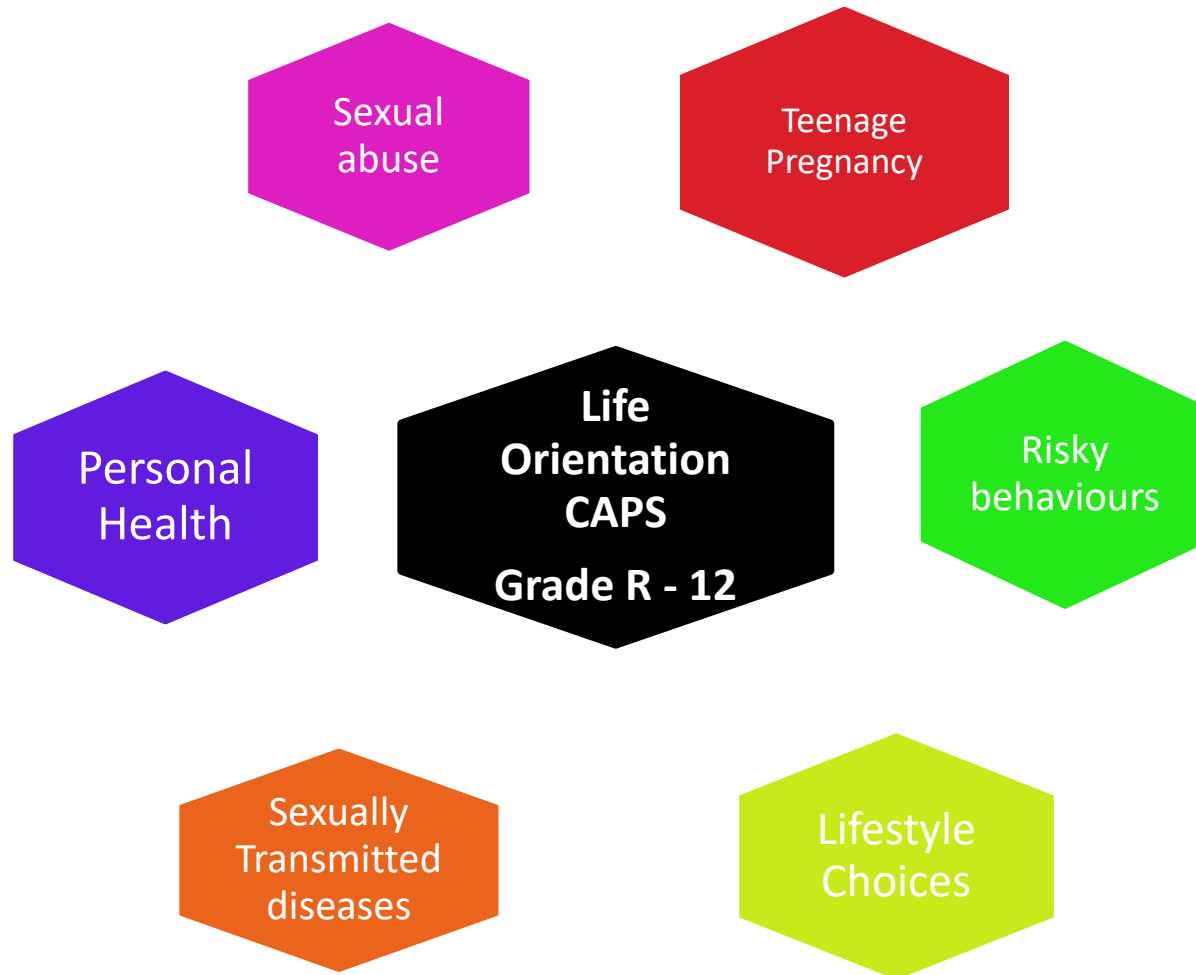


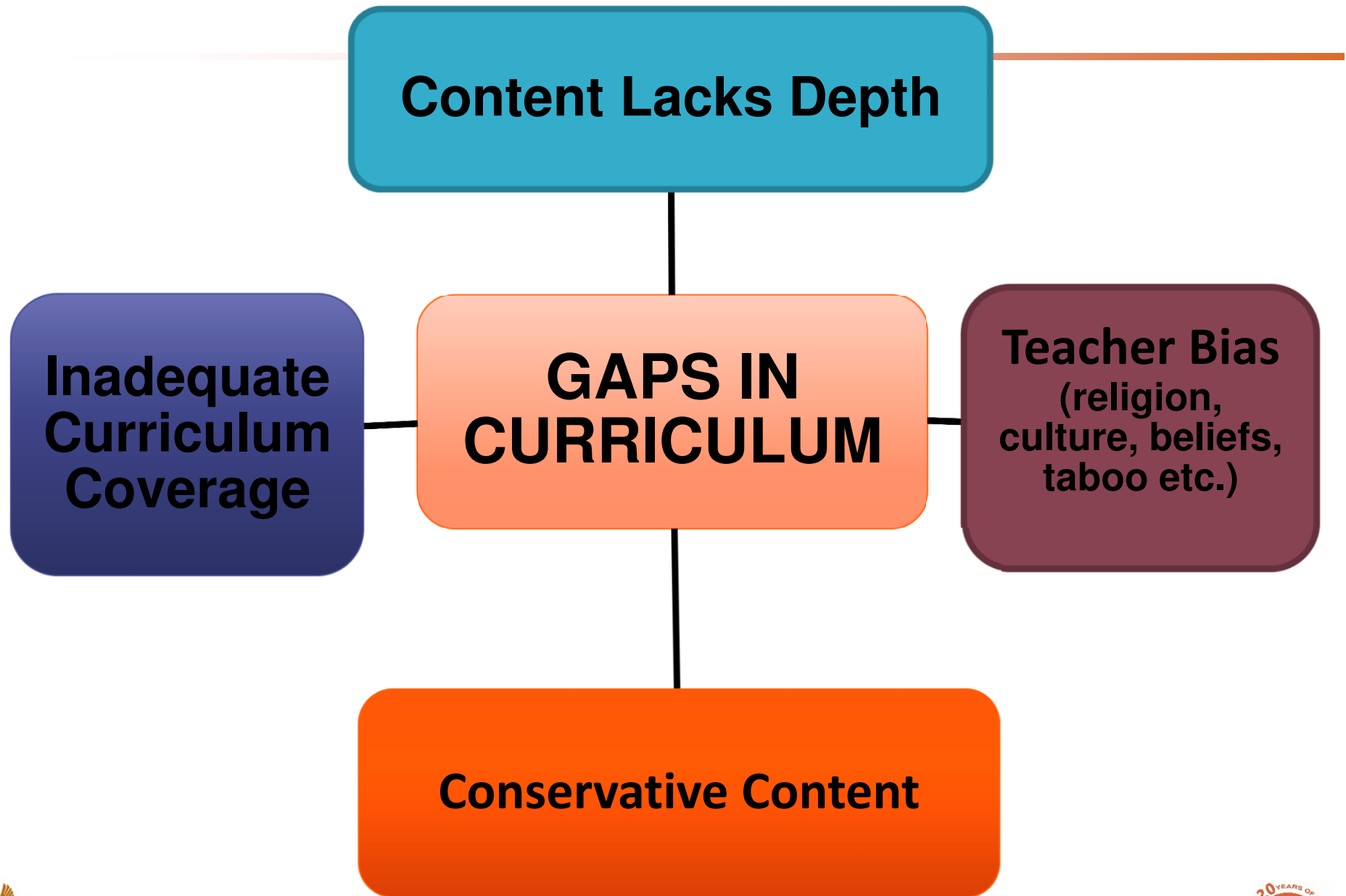
Topics in Life Orientation

- The subject contains the following five topics in Grades 7 – 9



Life Orientation and Sexuality Education





Opportunities ahead for strengthening Life Orientation

The DBE in partnership with UNAIDS:

- **Developed** HIV and AIDS **scripted lesson plans** to capacitate teachers **Grades 6 to 9**;
- **Developing** scripted lesson plans for **Grades 10-12**.
- Developing **Open source material** address **content gaps** in sexuality education through a radical approach.



Opportunities ahead for strengthening Life Orientation

- Improve content knowledge of teachers on sexuality education through capacity building.
- Exposure to innovative methodologies to teach sexuality education.
- DBE in collaboration with HEIs, DSD, DH, stakeholders to strengthen sexuality education programmes.



CONCLUSION

**“It always seems
impossible until it’s
done.”**

Nelson Mandela





THANK YOU

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