



Daphne II Programme: Youth4Youth: Empowering Young People in Preventing Gender-based Violence through Peer Education

Attitudes on Gender Stereotypes and Gender-based Violence among Youth

Country report: Lithuania

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METHODOLOGY

Questionnaire Study

Participants. In the study took part five hundred and one high school pupils. That included 246 girls, 248 boys and 7 respondents who did not define their sex. The age of participants ranged from 15 to 18, the average age was 15, 86. Participants were from three high schools (two secondary schools and one gymnasium), situated in the capital of Lithuania – Vilnius, so almost all pupils were urban (97, 4%).

Measures. A self-report questionnaire was compiled by the research team, in order to tap attitudes toward gender among the students, attitudes toward violence, justifications or explanations endorsed for violence, and myths/knowledge regarding relationship violence. Specifically, attitudes toward gender were assessed using an adapted version of the Attitudes Toward Women Scale for Adolescents (AWSA, Galambos et al., 1985). The questionnaire consists of 12 statements, where respondents rate agreement using a four point Likert scale. Attitudes toward violence were assessed using a series of 22 statements compiled by the research team, describing different types of behaviors by boys or girls in a relationship. Participants were asked to indicate whether they thought each behavior could be ok “always”, “often”, “sometimes”, or “never” (four point scale). Next, participants were asked to rate how frequently they believed 22 listed “reasons” explaining why men may be violent toward women applied. Participants’ knowledge or misconceptions regarding gender based violence was assessed through a scale asking participants to indicate agreement (using a four point scale ranging from Completely Agree to Completely Disagree), with 19 statements of “myths”. These statements were compiled by the researchers based on previous qualitative studies with the target population, and on the international literature regarding common myths or misconceptions about violence. For the purposes of our study, four additional statements were added by the researchers. All questionnaires had adequate internal reliability indices for our sample (all Cronbach alphas > .70). A final set of questions collected demographic and relationship information from participants. To ensure that wording was clear and appropriate for the target age group, the questionnaire was first administered to five volunteers on a pilot basis, and adjustments were made following feedback.

In the Lithuanian version of questionnaire there were made some changes in demographic part in order to avoid mismatches with educational system as there are some differences in every

country. For this reason there were adjusted some demographic questions (7 and 8) as Lithuanian educational system differs a bit from other countries. Lithuanian group of researchers also suggest, that some questions are not very important for analysis and could not be included to the questionnaire (5 and 6). These questions were about the origin of parents, where they came from. The full questionnaire is available in the Appendix.

Procedure. Questionnaires were administered to students after written consent was obtained initially from the competent authority at the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and subsequently from school principals. There had been written official letters to each school headmasters, explaining the problem, purpose of the study and process of the gaining information. Sessions for questionnaire administration were scheduled following coordination with teachers- in-charge, and were administered in-class time, in the presence of researchers, who clarified any student queries regarding the questionnaire. All questionnaires were completed in Lithuanian, and the procedure took about 30 minutes. Following completion of the questionnaires, students were given a debriefing form that provided contact information (telephone number, website, and emails) for the research agency, for a helpline on relationship/sexuality issues, and on relationship violence.

Focus groups

There were 14 participants in Focus groups. 8 from Antakaliniš secondary school, 4 girls and 4 boys (age 15-17). 6 from Basanavičiaus gymnasium 3 girls and 3 boys (age 15-17).

Focus group sessions were scheduled following coordination with teachers- in-charge, and were administered in-class time, in the presence of discussion moderator, they: Introduced MIGS & the project, explained briefly the main objective of focus groups, reminded participants that there are no right and wrong answers, probed for a free and frank discussion, explained the presence of digital recorder, together with participants agreed on group norms and reassure about confidentiality and anonymity of answers. Ensured quality and productivity of discussion.

RESULTS

Questionnaire study

Part III demographic/background information

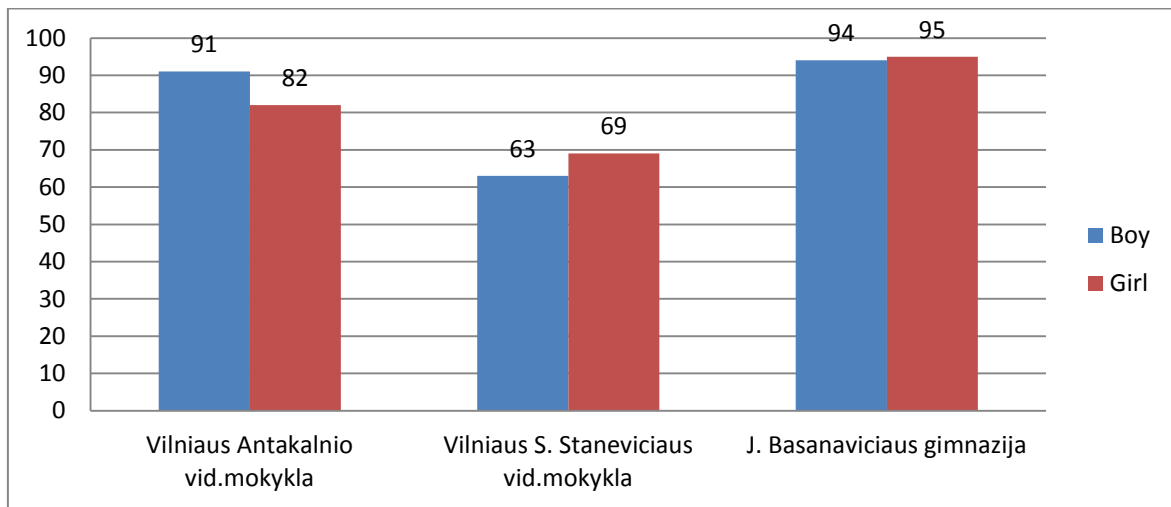
Gender (2 question)

501 adolescent's participated in the study. This included 248 boys, 246 girls and 7 respondents who did not define their sex (1.4%).

Table 1: Gender of the participants with frequencies and percent presented

	Frequency	%
Boys	248	49.5
Girls	246	49.1

Figure 1: Number of participants by school and gender



The questionnaire for the target group was given out in two high schools and one gymnasium in Vilnius (191 students from J. Basanaviciaus gymnasium, 177 from Vilniaus Antakalnio high school and 133 from Vilniaus S. Staneviciaus high school). In schools both sexes were represented almost equally (248 boys and 246 girls).

Age

Age group of participants was 15-18 year old. The average age of all participants was 15, 86. With mean of 15, 94 years for a boy (246 male participants indicated) and 15, 78 years for a girl (245 female participants indicated).

Birth place and current living place of the respondents

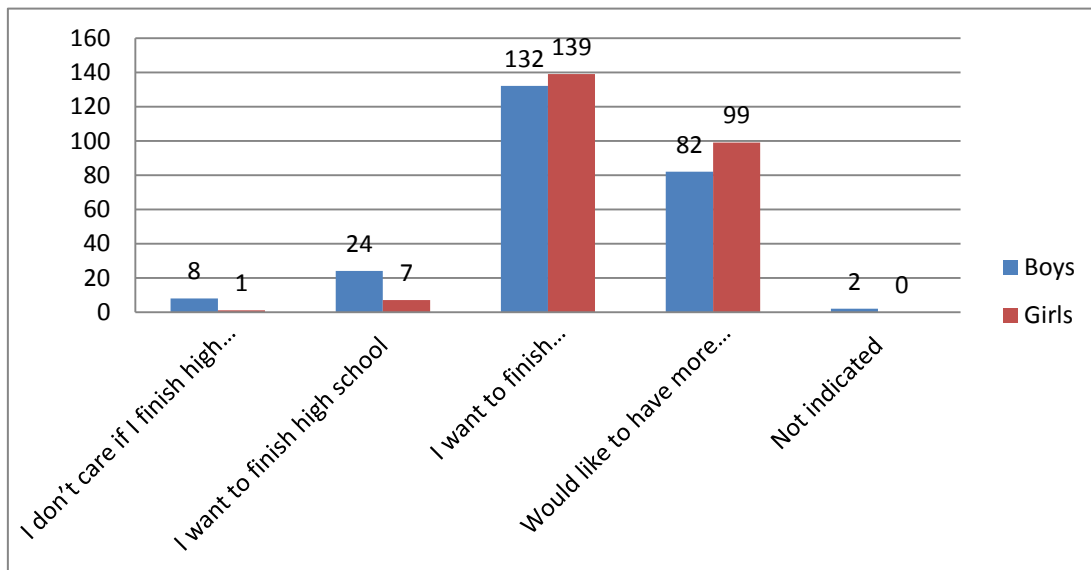
95.4% of participants were raised in a city (478 respondents) and 3.2% of participants were raised in a village. 7 respondents did not give their answer to the question (1.4%).

As expected most students (478 students) were raised in the city and only 16 students marked that they were raised in village. 437 children were raised in Vilnius, 34 in other cities of Lithuania and 30 children did not indicate the place they were raised in.

97.4% of participants indicated that they currently live in a city (488 respondents) and 1.2% of participants (6 respondents) live in a village. 7 respondents did not give their answer to the question.

Educational aspirations of participants

Figure 2. Educational aspirations of participants by gender



This histogram shows educational aspirations of participants defined by gender. The answers differ very little. More boys than girls indicated that they do not care if they finish high school or not, though more boys than girls marked that they want to finish high school after all. Results showed higher education is as important for boys that it is to girls (139 girls and 132 boys). 99 girls stated that they would like to get Master and Doctor degree, this degree was important to 82 boys, so figures on education aspiration vary little according to the sex.

Parental education

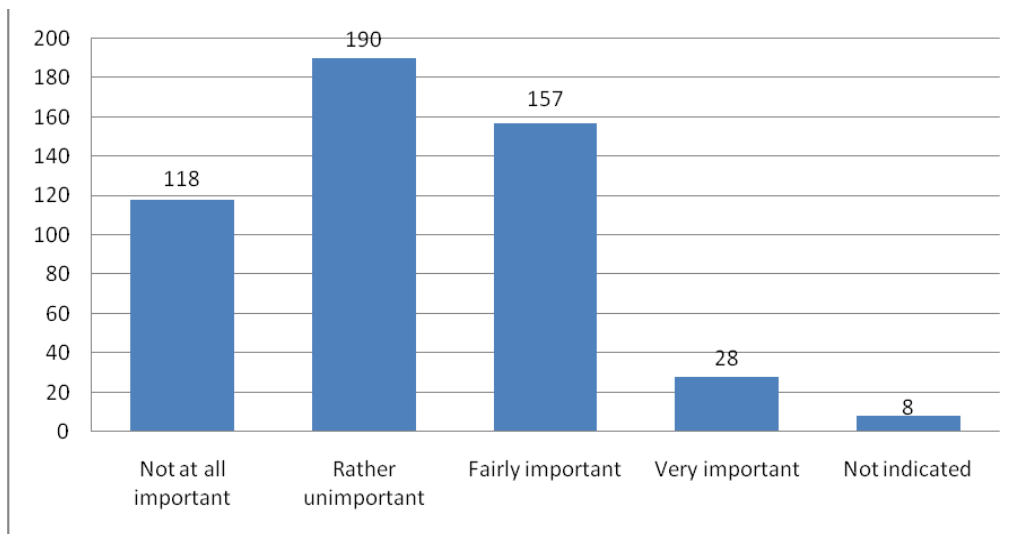
Table 2. Mother's and father's education presented with frequencies and percent.

	Mother's education Frequency (%)	Father's education Frequency (%)
General lower secondary education	4 (0,8)	7 (1,4)
General upper secondary education	20 (4,0)	53 (10,6)
Post-secondary and vocational education	89 (17,8)	103 (20,6)
Higher education	311 (62,1)	251 (50,1)
Not sure/Don't know	69 (13,8)	80 (16,0)

Rather high numbers (13, 8 %) of respondents don't know or are not sure what their mother's education is, and 7 pupils did not give the answer to the question. From those participants which indicated level of mother's education, the vast majority said, that it is higher education (62, 1 %). Very similar situation is with father's education. The number of those who do not know or are not sure about their father's education is even higher (16 %) and there are 6 respondents who did not answer the question. 50, 1% respondents indicated that their father's education is higher.

Importance of religion

Figure 3. Importance of religion in family



Majority of respondents 190 (38%) indicated that religion is rather unimportant in their family, 118 (23, 5%) indicated that religion is not at all important, 157 (31, 3%) thinks that in their family religion is fairly important, 28 (5, 6%) marked that religion is very important in their family, 8 (1, 6%) did not answer the question.

Involvement in a romantic relationship

2.6% of respondents did not answer the question correctly (did not define their gender or misunderstood the issue) therefore their responses were excluded from a final statistical analysis of the question. 337 (67.3%) indicated that they have been involved in a romantic relationship, from them 164 were boys and 173 - girls. 130 respondents haven't have had romantic relationship in the past (60 girls and 70 boys), 21 of them did not answer question at all, out of whom 10 respondents were boys and 11 - girls. As we see the difference between those who were involved in romantic relationships or the ones who did not had romantic relationship at all were almost equally divided between both genders. Results show that there are no connections between gender and involvement in relationships.

Table 3. Have you ever been involved in a romantic relationship gender comparison presented with frequencies and percent.

	Boys Frequency (%)	Girls Frequency (%)
Yes	164(66.1)	173 (70.3)
No	70 (28.2)	60 (24.4)
Not indicated	10 (4.0)	11 (4.5)

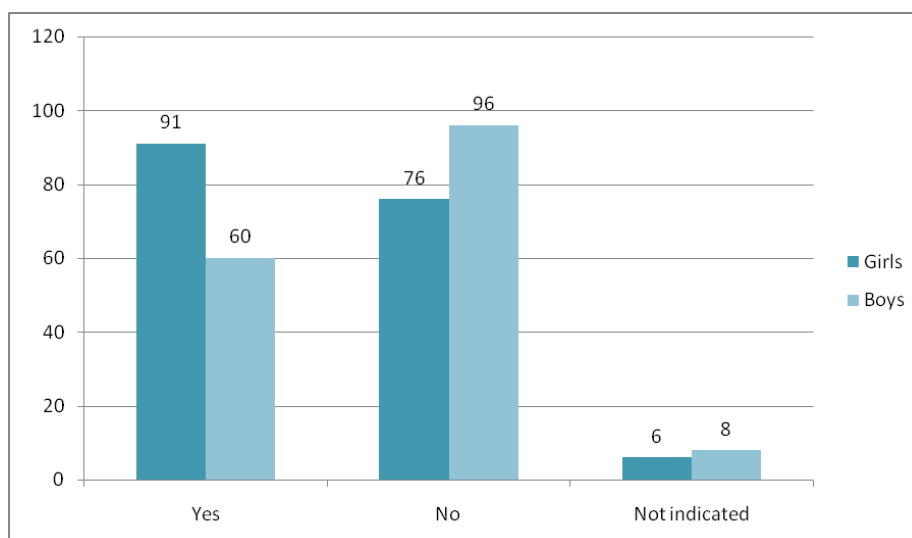
Number of romantic relationships

Those 173 boys and 164 girls who indicated that they had romantic relationship were asked to write the number of romantic relationships they were involved in past two years. 87 respondents (55 boys and 32 girls) did not give the number of relationships. Results of this question were quite controversial although number of relationships ranged from 1 to even 50, more than half (56.97%) of all pupils (78 boys and 114 girls) indicated that they had no more than three romantic relationship in past two years. Only 17.21% of respondents, 31 boys and 27 girls, marked that they have been involved in more than three romantic relationships in past three years.

The average number of romantic relationships between all respondents that have indicated the number of romantic relationship they had (total 250 pupils) was 3, 62 relationships. If we try to compare average number of relationships between gender we will see that average number of relationships boys had - 3,96 is higher than average of girls relationship number - 3,33. We can come to conclusion that in average boys are involved in more relationships then girls.

Involvement in romantic relationship

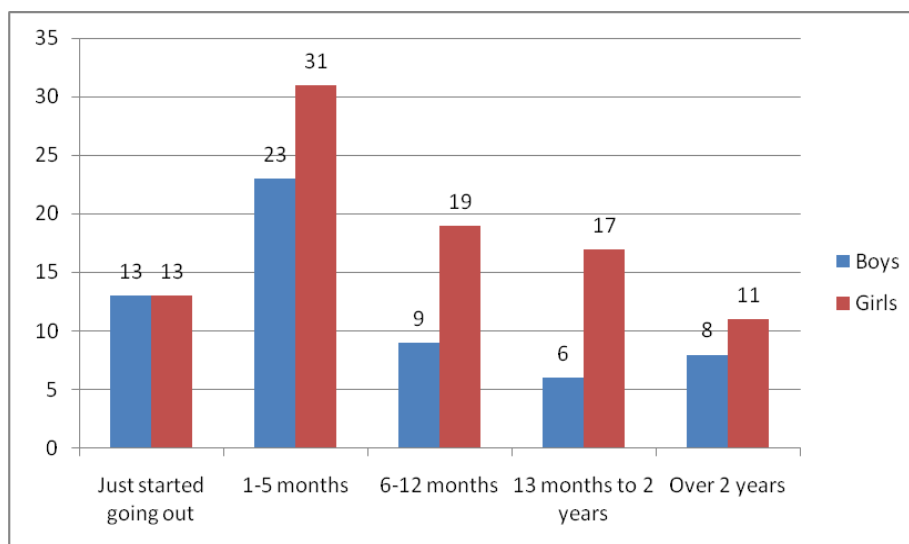
Figure 4. Involvement in romantic relationship by gender



To the question “Are you currently involved in romantic relationship?” 151 respondents answered positively, out of whom 91 were girls and 60 boys. 172 indicated that they are not involved in romantic relationships at the moment (76 girls and 96 boys). 14 did not answer question at all. Majority of girls 91(52.6%) out of 173 indicated that they have had romantic relationships in past two years and are involved in romantic relationship at the moment. Majority of boys 96(58.5%) out of 164 indicated that they are not involved in romantic relationship at the moment. If compare results between genders more girls are involved in romantic relationships at the moment than boys, logically more boys than girls are not involved in romantic relationships.

Respondents involved in romantic relationships

Figure 5. Length of romantic relationships by gender



Out of all respondents 152 indicated that they are currently involved in romantic relationship 151 indicated how long they are going out with their partner. Majority of respondents 54 out of which 23 are boys and 31 - girls marked that they are involved in romantic relationship from 1 to 5 months. Minority 19 are going out with their partners longer than two years, if we take age group into consideration this result is quite normal. 51,6% girls and only 38,33% are involved in romantic relationships more than 5 months, looking to data we can clearly see that girls are more tend to be involved in long term relationships.

Analysis of scales

Attitudes toward Women Scale

Table 1. General statistics of *Attitudes toward women scale*

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation
36.17	43.27	6.58

Reliability statistics: Cronbach Alpha is 0.770, i.e. good. This means that results of this scale are reliable.

Descriptive statistics of *Attitudes toward women scale*. Highest agreement indicates more conservative attitudes. Items are presented in descending order, i.e. highest agreement first (1 - strongly disagree, 2 - disagree, 3 - agree, 4 - strongly agree).

Respondents showed most conservative attitudes towards swearing, the mean of this question is 3, 17 (agree), that shows that the majority of respondents thinks that swearing is worse for a girl than for a boy. Also majority of respondents (mean is more than 2, 5) agrees with statements that most girls like to show off their bodies (2, 94 agree) and that most boys like to go out with girls just for sex (2, 72 agree). On average (2.69 agree) majority of respondents agrees that it is more acceptable for boy to have many sexual partners than for a girl. Taking into consideration that this scale indicates conservative attitudes we can make conclusion that respondents have most conservative attitudes towards these questions.

Reverse items (questions 3, 5, 7, 9, 12), are different because higher agreement/higher scores actually reflect more liberal (less conservative) attitudes towards women. When questions were reversed (1 strongly agree, 2 agree, 3 disagree, 4 strongly agree) all questions were evaluated on the same direction (higher score reflect more conservative attitudes). This way, we calculate a total scale score (or mean) in a single direction (higher scores mean more conservative attitudes). The statements are: It is all right for a girl to ask a boy out on a date, It is all right for a girl to want to play 'rough' sports like football, If both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should do a share of the housework such as washing dishes and doing the laundry, On the average, girls are as smart as boys, Girls should have the same freedom as boys.

Table 2

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Item-Total Correlation ¹
1. Swearing is worse for a girl than for a boy.	3.17	0.875	0.179
13. Most girls like to show off their bodies.	2.94	0.799	0.445
14. Most boys like to go out with girls just for sex.	2.72	0.976	0.489
16. It is more acceptable for a boy to have many sexual partners than for a girl.	2.69	0.863	0.012
2. On a date, the boy should be expected to pay all expenses.	2.44	0.874	-0.072
15. Most girls can't be trusted.	2.41	0.913	0.521
11. Girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career.	2.30	0.932	0.249
10. Boys are better leaders than girls.	2.24	1.043	0.379
7. It is all right for a girl to ask a boy out on a date.	2.21	0.857	0.437
6. In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making family decisions.	2.11	0.970	0.632
5. It is all right for a girl to want to play 'rough' sports like football.	1.90	0.795	0.478
9. If both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should do a share of the housework such as washing dishes and doing the laundry.	1.89	0.864	0.249
8. It is more important for boys than girls to do well in school.	1.85	0.812	0.286
4. More encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college.	1.81	0.893	0.496
3. On the average, girls are as smart as boys.	1.76	0.901	0.491
12. Girls should have the same freedom as boys.	1.56	0.771	0.573

Attitudes toward Violence Scale

Table 3. General statistics of Attitudes toward violence scale

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation
34.80	51.29	7.16

Reliability statistics: Cronbach Alpha is 0.815, i.e. good.

Table 4: Descriptive statistics of Attitudes toward violence scale.

Higher scores indicate higher tolerance of violence. Considered the fact that highest score of all answers was 2.1 we can make a conclusion that respondents do not have high tolerance to violence, but there were even 13 statements which had mean over 1.5 (1-never OK, 2-sometimes OK) even though results of scale are relatively low, tolerance to violence still exists. Statement "It is sometimes OK to push girl into having sex if they have been dating" (2.1, sometimes OK), shows the highest tolerance of violence between respondents. Respondents

think that it is sometimes OK for a girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing, this question also shows high tolerance of violence.

Questions which showed the lowest tolerance to violence was “It is ok for a boy to insult his girlfriend in front of others” (1.08 never OK) and “It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing” (1.09 never OK).

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Item-Total Correlation
1. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if they have been dating.	2.10	0.870	0.377
15. It is ok for girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	2.02	0.823	0.358
3. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if she has been flirting with him all night.	1.99	0.940	0.346
9. It is ok for a girl to set limits to where her boyfriend goes.	1.96	0.876	0.239
18. It is ok for a girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1.92	0.795	0.346
21. It is ok for a boy to set limits to where his girlfriend goes.	1.90	0.826	0.483
4. It is ok for girl to hit her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1.79	0.982	0.305
6. It is ok for a boy to spy on the mobile phone of his girlfriend.	1.78	1.206	0.344
13. It is ok for a girl to spy on the mobile phone of her boyfriend.	1.78	0.816	0.334
12. It is ok for a boy to set limits on how his girlfriend dresses.	1.77	0.771	0.326
17. It is ok for a boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1.75	0.752	0.493
19. It is ok for boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1.70	0.702	0.447
11. It is ok for a girl to set limits on how her boyfriend dresses.	1.60	0.693	0.436
7. It is ok to threaten to leave a partner in order to achieve something you want.	1.41	0.634	0.395
16. It is ok or a girl to hit her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	1.34	0.645	0.368
8. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if he has spent a lot of money on her.	1.30	0.701	0.386
22. Threatening to hit a partner is ok as long as you don't actually hit him/her.	1.18	0.557	0.375
2. It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she has been unfaithful.	1.15	0.516	0.409
14. It is ok for boy to hit his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1.10	0.449	0.423
10. It is ok for a girl to insult her boyfriend in front of others.	1.09	0.389	0.279
20. It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1.09	0.413	0.386
5. It is ok for a boy to insult his girlfriend in front of others.	1.08	0.406	0.357

Justification of Violence

Table 5: General statistics of *Justification of violence scale*

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation
43.32	67.76	8.23

Reliability statistics: Cronbach Alpha is 0.847, i.e. good.

Table 6: Descriptive statistics of *Justification of violence scale*. Mean scores indicate the most/least common answers

Some men are violence toward women because...	Mean	Std. Deviation	Item-Total Correlation
1. ...of alcohol or drug use	2.88	0.690	0.606
14. ...they consider themselves superior to women	2.76	0.879	0.587
7. ...they want to control women	2.74	0.897	0.507
6. ...they are physically stronger than women	2.60	1.052	0.537
15. ...they cannot control their anger	2.59	0.854	0.330
13. ...they have mental problems	2.58	0.938	0.462
12. ...they consider themselves superior to women	2.56	0.858	0.548
10. ...no one stops them	2.53	0.946	0.455
9. ...they were abused as children	2.39	0.886	0.457
3. ...they can't control their sexual urges	2.35	0.805	0.545
11. ...they are naturally aggressive	2.27	0.886	0.300
4. ...women provoke them	2.23	0.770	0.336
2. ...they misunderstand women	2.06	0.725	0.423
8. ...they are under stress	2.05	0.771	0.411
20. ...they can't take "no" for answer	1.99	0.881	0.315
5. ...women are not patient or tender enough with them	1.71	0.697	0.341
16. ...society expects them to	1.32	0.684	0.250
17. ...women like it	1.30	0.692	0.372
18. ...that makes them attractive to women	1.22	0.572	0.338
19. ...it is necessary	1.19	0.591	0.606

Descriptive statistics of *Justification of violence scale* is presented in the table. Most respondents marked that most common reason for some men to use violence towards women is: use of alcohol or drugs (2.88 out of 4), because they consider themselves superior to women (2.76 out of 4); because they want to control women (2.74 out of 4). According to the research most respondents think that men are rarely violent towards women because society expects them to (1.32 out of 4); because women like it (1.30 out of 4); because that makes them attractive to women (1.22 out of 4). The least common answer was that men use violence towards women because it is necessary (only 1.19 out of 4).

Table 7: General statistics of *Knowledge/myths scale*

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation
44.16	44.52	6.67

Reliability statistics: Cronbach Alpha is 0.735, i.e. desirable.

Table 8: Descriptive statistics of *Knowledge/myths scale*. Higher scores indicate higher prevalence of myths

Knowledge/myth	Mean	Std. Deviation	Item-Total Correlation
11. If a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship.	3.23	0.860	0.134
18. Most women are concerned about whether men like them.	3.21	0.940	0.272
2. If a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her.	2.93	0.757	0.385
13. Sometimes girls provoke sexual aggression by boys because of the way they are dressed.	2.70	0.893	0.342
3. Sometimes it helps a relationship if partners make each other jealous on purpose.	2.55	0.797	0.243
8. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) rarely happens among highly educated people.	2.54	0.938	0.210
9. Financial difficulties are the most common reason for problems that involve violence in relationships.	2.53	0.765	0.192
10. Women are more likely to be sexually abused by a stranger than someone they know.	2.43	0.847	0.315
19. A girl who has had many sexual partners deserves to be gossiped about.	2.41	1.046	0.361
17. Women name things as «sexual harassment» when in reality, they are only simple jokes.	2.33	0.851	0.425
12. Sometimes girls are to blame when their partners hit them.	2.30	0.888	0.325
1. Most of the time hitting and shouting happen in grown-up relationships and rarely in adolescent relationships.	2.06	0.804	0.265
4. When a girl says 'no' to her partner's sexual advances this often means 'yes'.	1.99	0.815	0.379
15. Just slapping or pushing your partner isn't a form of violence.	1.98	0.852	0.356
5. Women are just as likely to be violent toward their partners as men.	1.93	0.815	0.272
14. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) most commonly happens among immigrant communities.	1.92	0.749	0.342
6. Whatever happens between married couples is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1.91	0.860	0.293
7. Whatever happens between dating partners is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1.83	0.829	0.310
16. Men hit women simply because they love them.	1.38	0.703	0.317

This table presents Descriptive statistics of *Knowledge/myths scale*. Higher scores indicate higher prevalence of myths that are given in the questionnaires. Respondents showed highest prevalence to these myths: If a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship (3.23 out of 4); Most women are concerned about whether men like them (3.21 out of 4); If a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her (2.93 out of 4); . Sometimes girls provoke sexual aggression by boys because of the way they are dressed. (2.70 out of 4). Respondents showed lowest prevalence to these myths: Whatever happens between dating partners is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved. (1.83 out of 4); Men hit women simply because they love them. (Only 1.38 out of 4).

Descriptive statistics

Age and gender comparisons

1. Correlations between age and attitude towards women, violence and myths.

According to the table of correlations between age and attitude towards women, violence and myths, we can come to the conclusion, that there is no significant correlation² between independent variable (age) and answers of the respondents (*table 4*).

Table 4: Correlations between age and attitude towards women, violence and myths

	Correlation
Attitude towards women	0,053
Attitude towards violence	0,030
Attitude towards myths	0,296

Correlation is significant if sig. (2-tailed) is < 0, 01

What is more, correlation is significant only at the 0, 01 level (2-tailed)³. In our case all the values of the two-tailed test, except third block are very high (see appendix, *table 50*). In first two blocks an independent variable has not any influence to the given answers. But at some extent there is correlation between age and attitude towards myths, the 2-tailed test is also

² Correlation usually means the connection of two variables. In general, this means, that with the variation of independent variable (here *age*) changes dependent variable (answers of respondents).

³ The two-tailed test is a statistical test used in inference, in which a given statistical hypothesis, H0 (the null hypothesis), will be rejected when the value of the test statistic is either sufficiently small or sufficiently large.

less than 0,01, that means, that with the third block there is significant correlation, though it is not very intense (0,296). According to these assumptions, there can be made a conclusion, that age of respondents has influence only to their attitude towards knowledge and myths.

2. Correlations between sex and attitude towards women, violence and myths.

According to the results of the analysis, the general attitude towards three blocks of propositions (including first, second and fourth blocks) is not the same of boys and girls. In all question groups girls have shown the lower answer rate. This means, that they are less linked to agree with statements proposed in the questionnaire than boys (*table 5, 6.*).

Table 5: General rate of attitudes towards women, violence and myths (boys)

	Boys	
	Mean	Std. deviation
Mean of first block statements (attitude towards women)	2,41	0,48
Mean of second block statements (attitude towards violence)	1,63	0,37
Mean of fourth block statements (attitude towards myths)	2,40	0,32

Table 6: General rate of attitudes towards women, violence and myths (girls)

	Girls	
	Mean	Std. deviation
Mean of first block statements (attitude towards women)	2,07	0,32
Mean of second block statements (attitude towards violence)	1,53	0,27
Mean of fourth block statements (attitude towards myths)	2,27	0,26

On the other hand, though both sex groups have shown rather stable numbers of standard deviation – they are not very dispersed; it is evident, that girls are more stable in their answers as deviation lower in their group.

The difference between answers of boys and girls also can show the result of general linear model (GLM):

Table 7: Multivariate tests (GLM)

Multivariate Tests ^c						
Effect	Value	F	Hypothesis df	Error df	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Pillai's Trace	,854	963,046 ^a	3,000	495,000	,000	,854
Wilks' Lambda	,146	963,046 ^a	3,000	495,000	,000	,854
Hotelling's Trace	5,837	963,046 ^a	3,000	495,000	,000	,854
Roy's Largest Root	5,837	963,046 ^a	3,000	495,000	,000	,854
D2.SEX						
Pillai's Trace	,307	30,002	6,000	992,000	,000	,154
Wilks' Lambda	,716	29,949 ^a	6,000	990,000	,000	,154
Hotelling's Trace	,363	29,896	6,000	988,000	,000	,154
Roy's Largest Root	,192	31,758 ^b	3,000	496,000	,000	,161

a. Exact statistic

b. The statistic is an upper bound on F that yields a lower bound on the significance level.

c. Design: + D2.SEX

The most significant test is *Pillai's Trace*, and its index is $0,000 < 0,001$ that points out differences between two groups divided by independent variable D2.SEX.⁴ Three other tests (*Wilks' lambda*, *Hotelling's Trace* and *Roy's Largest Root*) also have shown that there are significant differences between two genders. That means, that boys and girls differently answer the same questions of all blocks.

It is also important to note, that in all answers of all blocks standard deviation was stable, there were no questions, which had a great dispersion, and mostly it varied from 0, 4 to 1. That means that questions were logic and clear, and pupils were rather stable with their opinions.

⁴ That means, that there are compared two groups of different gender – boys and girls were separated.

I scale Attitudes towards women

In the next table average numbers of answers given to the questions of the block 1 of questionnaire are presented. The purpose of these questions is to find out the attitude towards women. In the table, answers of boys and girls are given in separate columns. The answers could vary from 1 to 4 and mean if respondent think that the statement is acceptable (where, 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Always).

Table 8: Attitude towards women (both sexes comparison)

	Mean	
	Boys	Girls
1. Swearing is worse for a girl than for a boy	3,21	3,70
2. On a date, the boy should be expected to pay all expenses	2,39	2,55
3. On the average, girls are as smart as boys	2,89	3,60
4. More encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college	2,04	1,61
5. It is all right for a girl to want to play 'rough' sports like football	2,86	3,37
6. In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making family decisions	2,44	1,87
7. It is all right for a girl to ask a boy out on a date	2,91	2,66
8. It is more important for boys than girls to do well in school	2,04	1,68
9. If both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should do a share of the housework such as washing dishes and doing the laundry.	2,78	3,46
10. Boys are better leaders than girls	2,83	1,71
11. Girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career	2,69	1,94

12. Girls should have the same freedom as boys	3,20	3,70
13. Most girls like to show off their bodies	3,10	2,86
14. Most boys like to go out with girls just for sex	2,70	2,76
15. Most girls can't be trusted	2,61	2,27
16. It is more acceptable for a boy to have many sexual partners than for a girl	2,77	2,75

According to the *Table 8*, the most significant differences between two genders are in the statements that boys are better leaders than girls and that girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career. The difference rate of first proposition is even more than 1 (boys – 2, 83, girls – 1, 71). In reference to the second proposition, it is evident, that it is tightly linked to the first mentioned. The difference between two genders is also very high (0, 75). If boys are more likely to think they are good leaders, they will be sure that the place for a woman is not a formal work, but private sphere with household and looking after children.

Other statements which have shown noticeable differences between boys and girls are linked with the attitude towards authority and gender equality. Both boys and girls are likely to think that women should have the same freedom as men, but on the other hand, the rate of boys is much lower (3,20 in comparison with girls – 3,70). What is more, they think that girls are as smart as boys on the average, but the rate of their answers is also much lower (2, 89 in comparison to girls 3, 60). Finally, boys think, that father must have more authority in family decisions. This factor is especially important, because the mean of answers of boys is near 2.5 (2.44), what means, that they are about to agree with it, and in the girls group it is 1, 87 (lower than 2.5 rate shows disagreement with the statement) in comparison with third statement, when both sex groups had positive attitude.

What is also interesting to note, is that while boys think that father must have more power in family decisions, they less than girls think that if both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should share the housework with his wife (2, 78 in comparison to girls 3, 46).

Another phenomenon is about attitude of girls towards themselves. Though they tried to show, that they are as smart as boys and should have the same freedom, they even more than boys are negatively looking at the girl's swearing.

The separation of boys and girls has shown that on the average at some level boys agreed with all statements presented in the first block of questionnaire. Lower rate than 2.5 was only of these statements: In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making

family decisions; On a date, the boy should be expected to pay all expenses; It is more important for boys than girls to do well in school; More encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college. To the contrast, girls less agree with such statements as: girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career; in general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making family decisions; boys are better leaders than girls; it is more important for boys than girls to do well in school; more encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college.

The data analysed above leads to the suggestion, that girls more than boys gender equality between sexes. Girls want to be independent, have the same authority in the family and public sphere, while boys show more conservative attitude to equal rights.

II scale Attitude towards violence

In the table 8, average numbers of answers given to the questions of the second block of the questionnaire are presented. This block lists statements about respondent's attitude towards violence. In the table boys and girls answers are given in separate columns. The answers could vary from 1 to 4 and shows agreement with following statement. Means in scale (1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Always).

Table 9: Attitude towards violence (both sexes comparison)

	Mean	
	Boys	Girls
1. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if they have been dating.	2,37	1,84
2. It is ok for a boy hit his girlfriend if she has been unfaithful.	1,25	1,05
3. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if she has been flirting with him all night.	2,35	1,63
4. It is ok for girl to hit her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,81	1,79
5. It is ok for a boy to insult his girlfriend in front of others.	1,16	1,02
6. It is ok for a boy to spy on the	1,92	1,72

mobile phone of his girlfriend.		
7. It is ok to threaten to leave a partner in order to achieve something you want.	1,41	1,41
8. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if he has spent a lot of money on her.	1,56	1,07
9. It is ok for a girl to set limits to where her boyfriend goes.	1,75	2,17
10. It is ok for a girl to insult her boyfriend in front of others.	1,12	1,08
11. It is ok for a girl to set limits on how her boyfriend dresses.	1,78	1,45
12. It is ok for a boy to set limits on how his girlfriend dresses.	1,80	1,77
13. It is ok for a girl to spy on the mobile phone of her boyfriend.	1,64	1,91
14. It is ok for boy to hit his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,19	1,02
15. It is ok for girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,96	2,12
16. It is ok or a girl to hit her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,41	1,29
17. It is ok for a boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,83	1,67
18. It is ok for a girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,88	1,96
19. It is ok for boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,79	1,66
20. It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,16	1,04

21. It is ok for a boy to set limits to where his girlfriend goes.	1,90	1,96
22. Threatening to hit a partner is ok as long as you don't actually hit him/her.	1,22	1,17

Answers to questions of second block differ much less in the two groups. Mostly there are mismatches towards questions about sexual relationships. For example, boys think that in some occasions they have right to push girls into intimate relations. This can be justified by the agreement rate of 1, 3 and 8 statements. The difference is accordingly 0, 53, 0, 72 and 0, 49 between two genders. Boys state, that they can push a girl into such relationships if: They have been dating; He has spent a lot of money on her; she has been flirting with him all night. The last statement is not as important as two first, because, even though the difference between boys and girls is significant, the answers rate is even lower than 2, so, on average, boys do not agree with this proposition as well. But the first and second statements show us the significant difference between two genders, when girls are likely to disagree with them, and boys, in contrast, to agree.

This trend also is reflected in the separated data tables of boys and girls (see appendix). As the most important, boys indicated statements that it is normal for a boy to push a girl into having sex if they have been dating and that it is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if she has been flirting with him all night (see appendix).

Most of girls agreed only with two statements. They are: it is ok for a girl to set limits to where her boyfriend goes and that it is ok for girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/ arguing (see appendix). What is more there was noticed a trend, that boys usually do not agree with statements with which girls agree and vice versa.

So, each of genders try to show it's some kind of power over another, the only difference is that boys think they have rights on girl's body, and girls want to set limits on the boyfriend's activity. On the other hand, both genders agree, that it is unacceptable to insult partner in front of others, threaten to hit or actually hit. These statements had the lowest rate in both groups (about 1, what means *completely disagree*), the only difference was the order of the priority (see appendix). As we can see, girls as the main statements with which they disagree indicated 2, 20, 14 and 5, and boys – 14, 20, 5 and 10 (see appendix).

III scale Reasons of violence

In the next table main reasons of violence towards women are presented. Here, like in previous blocks youngsters could choose one of four answers, where higher number means greater agreement with statement.

Table 10: Reasons of violence (both sexes comparison)

	Mean	
	Boys	Girls
1. ...of alcohol or drug use	2,79	3,00
2. ...they misunderstand women	2,07	2,05
3. ...they can't control their sexual urges	2,31	2,45
4. ...women provoke them	2,35	2,16
5. ...women are not patient or tender enough with them	1,85	1,61
6. ...they are physically stronger than women	2,47	2,93
7. ...they want to control women	2,56	2,92
8. ... they are under stress	2,13	2,00
9. ...they were abused as children	2,30	2,53
10. ... no one stops them	2,48	2,61
11. ... they are naturally aggressive	2,24	2,33
12. they are jealous	2,48	2,67
13. they have mental problems	2,51	2,68
14. ... they consider themselves superior to women	2,63	2,89
15. ... they cannot control their anger	2,48	2,73
16. society expects them to	1,41	1,26
17. ... women like it	1,45	1,17

18. that makes them attractive to women	1,33	1,11
19. ... it is necessary	1,29	1,10
20. ... they can't take 'no' for answer	1,90	2,11

In this list of reasons why men sometimes are violent towards women, there were no such significant differences between boys and girls as it was in the first and second blocks of statements. Only three reasons stood out, where answers have separated: ...they are physically stronger than women; ...they want to control women; ... they cannot control their anger (table 10). In these statements the rate of girls agreement was higher (with about 0,40 disparity). This lead to the belief, that girls think that: biological strength and power aspirations, bigger aggression can be significant reasons of why men use violence towards women. Girls also pointed out that first two are the most important reasons of violence: alcohol or drug use.

Boys also mentioned dependence of alcohol and drugs. Boys belief that men superior to women are the most common reason of violence towards women. What is more, they also agree with girls, that men want to control woman. This reason was the third in the priority both of boys and girls.

Other reasons of violence were defined by 22 boys and 21 girls. All in all there were 43 respondents (~8,6%) who gave answers, which were classified into several groups. There were picked out 5 answer groups of boys and 4 groups of girls (see tables 8, 9). Answers were translated from the native language, so there can be some mismatches⁵.

Table 11: Other reasons of violence specified (boys)

Statement group	Frequency
Women are not involved in the work acceptable for men (cooking, household etc.)	7
Have nothing to do	5
Want to show their superiority	3
Women's foolishness	2
Other problems (stress, monotony, unfaithfulness etc.)	4

⁵ Two statements were not translated, because they were interpreted like not serious. In the table of original answers (see appendix, tables 58, 60), their numbers are 2 (for boys) and 14 (for girls). So, actually were analyzed only 41 answers.

Table 12: Other reasons of violence specified (girls)

Statement group	Frequency
Deficiency, sexual problems	5
Self-performance	5
Disrespect, desire to control	4
Do not realize what they do	2
Other problems	4

The distinction to these groups is rather subjective, but all in all tables can facilitate the perception of information given by students.

Most of boys have rather patriarchal point of view – they think, that women’s place is in the kitchen and if not, it could be the reason of the violence. On the other hand, some boys had very negative opinion about violence towards women. Other problems indicated were stress, monotony, woman’s unfaithfulness, disagreement, etc.

Girls gave facts about deficiency of those men, who could hit women. That included sexual, moral and other problems. Other reasons defined by girls group, were self-performance and desire to control.

IV scale Attitude towards knowledge and myths

The purpose of this scale was to find out the attitude of respondents towards myths created by our society. Here respondents could express their level of agreement in scale 1 to 4 (1 – strongly disagree, 2 - disagree, 3 - agree, 4 – strongly agree).

Table 13: Attitude towards myths (both sexes comparison)

	Mean	
	Boys	Girls
1. Most of the time hitting and shouting happen in grown-up relationships and rarely in adolescent relationships.	2,13	2,00
2. If a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her.	3,00	2,95

3. Sometimes it helps a relationship if partners make each other jealous on purpose.	2,47	2,71
4. When a girl says ‘no’ to her partner’s sexual advances this often means ‘yes’.	2,23	1,81
5. Women are just as likely to be violent toward their partners as men.	2,06	1,88
6. Whatever happens between married couples is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	2,07	1,79
7. Whatever happens between dating partners is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1,97	1,74
8. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) rarely happens among highly educated people.	2,67	2,48
9. Financial difficulties are the most common reason for problems that involve violence in relationships.	2,60	2,52
10. Women are more likely to be sexually abused by a stranger than someone they know	2,53	2,42
11. If a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship.	3,17	3,36
12. Sometimes girls are to blame when their partners hit them.	2,44	2,25
13. Sometimes girls provoke sexual aggression by boys because of the way they are dressed.	2,79	2,72
14. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) most commonly happens among immigrant communities.	2,06	1,88
15. Just slapping or pushing your	2,11	1,92

partner isn't a form of violence.		
16. Men hit women simply because they love them.	1,61	1,18
17. Women name things as «sexual harassment» when in reality, they are only simple jokes.	2,66	2,14
18. Most women are concerned about whether men like them.	3,36	3,40
19. A girl who has had many sexual partners deserves to be gossiped about.	2,58	2,50

In the *table 13*, there are no such significant differences between two sexes, but 3 of the statements had shown rather diverse answers between sexes. The largest gap between answers was at the fourth statement telling, that: when a girl says 'no' to her partner's sexual advances this often means 'yes'. Generally, boys agreed with this statement (2, 23), and girls – don't (1, 81).

What is more, some boys really think, that men hit women because they love them. But on the other hand, on the whole they don't agree with this statement (the mean is only 1, 61). In the girls group, the rate is even lower – only 1, 18. So, girls strongly disagree with this statement.

The last mostly pinched out statement was that women name things as sexual harassment when in reality, they are only simple jokes. The difference between groups was 0, 42 with higher boys agreement.

Telling about priority of statements in two groups, it is surprising, but the answers achieved the highest rate were the same. These included such propositions: most women are concerned about whether men like them (boys – 3, 36, girls – 3, 40); if a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship (boys – 3, 17, girls – 3, 36); if a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her (boys – 3, 00, girls – 2, 95).

Focus groups

There were 14 participants in Focus groups. 8 from Antakaliniš secondary school, 4 girls and 4 boys (age 15-17). 6 from Basanavičiaus gymnasium 3 girls and 3 boys (age 15-17).

PART B

Respondents described violence as actions which can do harm to other person (they can experience physical or moral pain, discomfort). All participants agreed that violence can be both physical and psychological. Behaviors that youngsters described as violent: hitting, biting, rape, slapping. Respondents described behavior that can be considered as psychological violence: harassment, humiliation, bullying. Difference between sexes occurred in opinion about control of partner free time. Girls were more likely to agree with statement that it is ok to control partner. All youngsters described partner control as violent behavior.

Majority of participants asked about frequency of gender based violence in relationship described it as appearing often or very often. Some mentioned that nearly half of persons involved in relationships experience violence. Minority of respondents claimed that violence in relationship is uncommon. Vast majority of respondents claimed that they have no personal experience of violence in relationships. Respondents claimed that they mostly violent behavior in relationships or in family in TV. One girl mentioned her mother's friend daughter's story. This girl has been beaten by her boyfriend, she did not want to go to police or leave her boyfriend, she was certain that he just did this to protect her. All youngsters reacted negatively to this situation and marked that this girl should get help from her parents, teachers, psychologists and etc. Also all respondents think that if their relative or friend got involved in violent relationship they would try to help them. Few participants mention that they suspect that their neighbors are violent (because of screaming, crying).

Majority of respondents claimed that violence in relationship is more recognizable than it used to be 15 years ago. Main reasons are: 1. publicity of this social problem; 2. Better victim assistance. Respondents think that these are the main reasons why violence in relationship is more visible in these days. Respondents think that gender based violence level is same as it was 15 years ago.

PART C

Youth claimed that mostly perpetrators are man and victims are woman. They also come up with common opinion that men usually use physical violence, woman - psychological violence. The main reasons why men usually use physical violence: they want to demonstrate their strength and primacy over woman, they are unable to control their feelings and gets angry easily. Some youngsters claimed that man and woman are equally violent. Also majority claimed that in high income families women are usually perpetrators and in socially excluded families perpetrators are usually men. There were no significant gender opinions separations regarding this part of discussion.

Youngsters described most common psychological characteristics of perpetrator as: impulsiveness, aggression, low level of anger management, intolerance, stubbornness, strength and power demonstration, confidence in strength.

Majority of respondents thinks that violence in relationships is provoked, it can be caused by: misunderstandings, different opinions, going out of your patience. Less frequently mentioned reason of violence is: alcohol and drugs, Lithuanian style of communication. One boy expressed opinion that sometimes violence is necessary in order to restrain woman. This discussion part was very intense because girls reacted negatively and confronted this boy. Most commonly youngsters think that perpetrators are men, but they clearly identified that sometimes woman are responsible for men violent behavior. In this part of discussion gender differences were more visible, girls were noticed to be less willing to agree with the statements given by boys.

Almost all youngsters agreed that gender based violence can be avoided, but some claimed that sometimes it is necessary (according to situation).

Most common mentioned consequences to victims of gender based violence are psychological: depression, self-blame, suicidal thoughts, distrust in others, psychological trauma. Victims can experience: anger, desire for revenge, humiliation, disappointment, addiction to perpetrator.

Gender based violence consequences to society: violent behavior increase - society degradation, decrease: fertility, level of education, labor force, innovation. Violence negatively affects families (bad example for children, psychological trauma, violent behavior is more likely to occur in children future family).

In can be claimed that youth see some society influence on violent behavior occurrence. Mainly they think that society consider violent behavior mostly as a problem of relationship or individual not a problem of hole society.

Majority of respondents described typical perpetrators as individuals with low economic and social status. Also they mentioned mentally disabled people. Few youngsters mentioned that violent behavior also is common in families with high income level and good social status. There were no specific age groups described, but from examples and opinions we can make conclusion that youngsters are sure that violent behavior is more likely to occur between grownups (from 25 years).

Also respondents mentioned that violence in adolescent's relationships is likely to happen as well but not so often than in adult relationships.

Youngsters claimed that places where violence is most likely to happen in indoor places: at home, in stairwell. In such places where strangers are not involved, where perpetrator can feel like king. Some respondents mentioned public transport, school and forest as places where violent behavior can occur.

More than half youngsters think that single incident cannot be described as violence. Mainly this opinion was more noticeable among girls. There was no consensus on violence as one time incidents between all youngsters. Their opinions varied during the discussion. After some statements and observations half of respondents came to conclusion that in relationships violence is not a single incident, but it is most likely to occur in future as well.

When respondents were asked to consider deeper causes of violence in relationships they mentioned problems of behavior and character such as: low self-confidence, inferiority complex, inability to express their emotions differently, desire to demonstrate their power, jealousy. Majority of youngsters mentioned that family example is very important. Parental education and relationships in family are also significantly important. Also youngsters highlighted perpetrator fear of becoming victim himself. One boy mentioned alcoholism as most common cause of violence in relationship.

One of the reasons for gender based violence is the role of women, meaning that men are used to see women as lower than men, in order to feel superior they use violence against women.

Boys' opinions are very dual. One part of boys claims that domestic violence has no connection with women gaining a lot more rights that several decades before. Other disagrees and claims that it is connected directly with violence against women. They explain this opinion in 2 ways: firstly, those men feel that they are losing control of the family and women. One boy thought that maybe perpetrator thinks: if I don't put her in her "place" she will take over and sit on my

head“, others claim that these connections can be explained with the animalistic nature of human beings.

PART D

Questionnaire results showed that girls are more likely to be involved in romantic relationships. Boys claim that this is connected with the fact that women think differently, they are thinking of family planning and more need stability in their lives. Girls claim that society thinks worst of a girl that has a lot of short-term relationships that about the boy, because boys in general have fear of commitment.

Attitude towards leadership differed among youth. Several boys claimed that boys are more likely to become leaders than girls, because women are weaker in their nature, easy to affect their opinion. Other group of boys claimed that woman can be a leader, because they no differed from men. During the discussion on aggression as one of the qualities for good leader boys claimed that girls tend to be more aggressive than boys, girls disagreed and claimed the opposite way, saying that aggression is more boy quality. Girls agreed with the opinion that skills for leadership is gained not according to the sex but to personal qualities.

Most guys agreed to the myth that girls are tend to be housewife's and not focus into their career, they claim that it's impossible to combine family responsibilities and personal career. Girls disagree with this statement claiming that reconciliation of family and work is possible, e.g. you can work part time.

All youngsters disagreed to the myth that father should make all the decisions in family. They claim that both partners should be equal and family position and responsibilities depend on mutual agreement.

Neither boys nor girls agreed to the myth that boy can force his girlfriend to make love to him, they claim that it is ok to expect to have sex, but one can never force another into doing it.

Both sexes claim that shouting at partner weather it is a girl or a boy is ok if one provokes another. But they also claim that you should try to solve the problem peacefully.

Youngsters claimed that they get information about domestic violence from TV, real situations (e.g. neighbors), events, lectures, questionnaires, magazines. Young people tend to trust real examples and outcomes of real projects rather than one's they see on TV or magazines.

In respondents opinion in order to prevent domestic violence from happening new laws should be passed, a lot of awareness raising activities needs to be done for general public, as well as seminars needs to be organized.

Overall comments

All focus groups participants were very interested and actively participated in discussion. They expressed their opinion about abusive relationships and tried to identify most common reasons of violence, typical perpetrator profile and main effects to victim. Attitude towards gender stereotypes: youngsters are more likely to agree that gender equality it is necessary for sustainable society development. Although they state that gender equality is necessary it is clear from expressed that boy's attitude to women's are not same as to men. Boys still believe that in some spheres of life woman are not as good as men or vice versa. For example more than half of boys who participated in focus groups expressed their opinion that is normal that woman takes care of the baby and they think that men cannot do it properly or that it is not possible to combine family responsibilities and personal careers. As for attitude towards violence we can come to conclusion that youngsters can identify just two types of violent behavior: physical and psychological violence. Also they believe that often perpetrators are man, but woman usually uses psychological violence, they even stated that women sometimes provoke violent behavior. Also from comments about research findings it was clear that woman violent behavior towards man is justified more than man violent behavior towards woman.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATIONS

After the initial compilation and adaptation of the Attitudes towards Women Scale for Adolescents (AWSA) (Galambos et al., 1985), the instrument was successfully implemented in Lithuania's cultural context. Minor changes that were suggested to original questionnaire included alterations to demographic, educational and ethnicity based items. These technical solutions aimed at gaining more objective and precise assessment information from the research participants. Nonetheless, with the regard to methodology of a research's quantitative part, although results showed that there were no connection between youngster's gender and their involvement into romantic relationships, this particular question seemed rather perplexed for respondents since 2,6% did not answer it correctly and 4,2% skipped the question. This item, presumably, needs a revision if further use of the questionnaire in Lithuania's context is planned.

The researched group might be found as being homogenous when birth and living place are taken into consideration since approximately 96% of respondents chose *city* option for both of the answers. Secondly, the question of educational aspirations allows to draw a conclusion that although more boys than girls indicated their willingness to finish high-school, other questions regarding academic aspirations vary little according to sex. Thirdly, majority of respondents indicated unimportance of religion in their families with only 5, 6%, i.e. 28

respondents, giving priority to this domain. In regard to the demographic data obtained during the process of quantitative part of the research the homogeneity of the respondents might be found as a stimulus for further research. This sets an interesting issue that might be examined in the future, mainly, inclusion of more diverse groups of the respondents to the conducted study.

As *Attitudes towards Women Scale* suggests, the most conservative view when female and female behaviour is regarded goes to swearing. Nonetheless, the phenomenon that ought to be analysed deeper is boys' view of the girls' body. This phenomenon is also noticeable in *Knowledge/Myths Scale* when a priority to a myth that girls provoke aggression because of the way they dress is given by teenagers. Results of the scales suggest that the issue of girl's body and how it is regarded is quite vivid and demands education policy makers' attention in order to change rather strongly pronounced adolescent's opinion of the female's sexual embodiment and the role of a girl in male-female relationship. Furthermore, as figures revealed, there was no correlation between age and *Attitudes towards Women Scale*. Nevertheless, girls were noticed to be less willing to agree with the scale statements that are inclined to express negative attitudes towards women. As supported by the statistical measures, this is particularly pronounced in a distinction that encompasses girls' concern for gender equality and equal rights when boys, on the contrary, tend to endorse patriarchal and authoritative stance towards gender roles. This calls for the delivery and implementation of policies and initiatives promoting equality of gender as a main cornerstone towards the fight against misconceived views and attitudes towards women.

Additional attention is also required when *Attitudes towards Violence Scale* is taken into consideration. Although obtained figures show lack of the acceptance of violence in most of the cases, mild prevalence of this negative phenomenon still exists that calls for additional attention from educational and equal opportunities policy makers, school principals and other responsible bodies operating on the macro, meso and micro level of the youth wellbeing. Cooperation and reciprocal understanding among these is one of the most crucial challenges when explanation of the barriers and challenges for the elimination of gender based violence are analyzed in Lithuania's context.

Summarizing Focus groups results we should mark that nearly all students recognize just two types of violence physical and psychological, other types of violence such as economical or sexual were not mentioned. From this point of view we can make a conclusion that lack of knowledge about types of violence is still a problem among youth. Most youth marked that violence in relationship is still a big problem of our society, they think that more than half people in relationship are exposed to risk of violence. Also students think that mostly men use physical violence and woman use just psychological. Nonetheless, the phenomenon that some youngsters stated that sometimes woman are blame themselves when violence in

relationship happens. This statement shows that adolescent's have lack of knowledge about circle of "power and control" and general knowledge about common reasons of violence. Survey findings showed that there are still significant differences between boys and girls attitudes among gender equality. In addition to this fact focus groups revealed that adolescent's do not have relevant level of knowledge about importance of gender equality in school and everyday life. Most students were certain that there is not enough education about gender issues and violence in relationship in particular. This calls for the delivery and implementation of educational modules and practical seminars regarding gender equality and gender based violence issues.

Appendix

Table 50: Correlations between age and attitude towards women, violence and myths.

		Correlations			
		YOUR AGE	ATWmean	ATVmean	KMmean
YOUR AGE	Pearson Correlation	1	,053	,030	,296**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		,235	,508	,000
	N	497	497	497	497
ATWmean	Pearson Correlation	,053	1	,299**	,353**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,235		,000	,000
	N	497	501	501	501
ATVmean	Pearson Correlation	,030	,299**	1	,346**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,508	,000		,000
	N	497	501	501	501
KMmean	Pearson Correlation	,296**	,353**	,346**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,000	,000	
	N	497	501	501	501

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 51: Attitude towards women (boys)

Boys	
Mean	
1. Swearing is worse for a girl than for a boy	3,21
12. Girls should have the same freedom as boys	3,20
13. Most girls like to show off their bodies	3,10
7. It is all right for a girl to ask a boy out on a date	2,91
3. On the average, girls are as smart as boys	2,89
5. It is all right for a girl to want to play 'rough' sports like football	2,86
10. Boys are better leaders than girls	2,83
9. If both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should do a share of the housework such as washing dishes	2,78

	and doing the laundry.	
16.	It is more acceptable for a boy to have many sexual partners than for a girl	2,77
14.	Most boys like to go out with girls just for sex	2,70
11.	Girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career	2,69
15.	Most girls can't be trusted	2,61
6.	In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making family decisions	2,44
2.	On a date, the boy should be expected to pay all expenses	2,39
8.	It is more important for boys than girls to do well in school	2,04
4.	More encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college	2,04

Table 52: Attitude towards women (girls)

	Girls	
	Mean	
12.	Girls should have the same freedom as boys	3,70
3.	On the average, girls are as smart as boys	3,60
9.	If both husband and wife have jobs, the husband should do a share of the housework such as washing dishes and doing the laundry.	3,46
5.	It is all right for a girl to want to play 'rough' sports like football	3,37
1.	Swearing is worse for a girl than for a boy	3,17
13.	Most girls like to show off their bodies	2,86
14.	Most boys like to go out with girls just for sex	2,76

16. It is more acceptable for a boy to have many sexual partners than for a girl	2,75
7. It is all right for a girl to ask a boy out on a date	2,66
2. On a date, the boy should be expected to pay all expenses	2,55
15. Most girls can't be trusted	2,27
11. Girls should be more concerned with becoming good wives and mothers rather than desiring a professional or business career	1,94
6. In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in making family decisions	1,87
10. Boys are better leaders than girls	1,71
8. It is more important for boys than girls to do well in school	1,68
4. More encouragement in a family should be given to sons than daughters to go to college	1,61

Table 53: Attitude towards violence (boys)

	Boys
	Mean
1. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if they have been dating.	2,37
3. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if she has been flirting with him all night.	2,35
15. It is ok for girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,96
6. It is ok for a boy to spy on the mobile phone of his girlfriend.	1,90
21. It is ok for a boy to set limits to where his girlfriend goes.	1,88
18. It is ok for a girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,84
17. It is ok for a boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,83

4. It is ok for girl to hit her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,81
12. It is ok for a boy to set limits on how his girlfriend dresses.	1,80
19. It is ok for boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,79
11. It is ok for a girl to set limits on how her boyfriend dresses.	1,78
9. It is ok for a girl to set limits to where her boyfriend goes.	1,75
13. It is ok for a girl to spy on the mobile phone of her boyfriend.	1,64
8. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if he has spent a lot of money on her.	1,56
7. It is ok to threaten to leave a partner in order to achieve something you want.	1,41
16. It is ok or a girl to hit her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,41
2. It is ok for a boy hit his girlfriend if she has been unfaithful.	1,25
22. Threatening to hit a partner is ok as long as you don't actually hit	1,22
14. It is ok for boy to hit his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,19
20. It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/arguing.	1,16
5. It is ok for a boy to insult his girlfriend in front of others.	1,16
10. It is ok for a girl to insult her boyfriend in front of others.	1,12

Table 54: Attitude towards violence (girls)

	Girls
	Mean
9. It is ok for a girl to set limits to where her boyfriend goes.	2,17
15. It is ok for girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/arguing.	2,12
21. It is ok for a boy to set limits to where his girlfriend goes.	1,96
18. It is ok for a girl to shout at her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,96

13. It is ok for a girl to spy on the mobile phone of her boyfriend.	1,91
1. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if they have been dating.	1,84
4. It is ok for girl to hit her boyfriend if he is not treating her with respect.	1,79
12. It is ok for a boy to set limits on how his girlfriend dresses.	1,77
6. It is ok for a boy to spy on the mobile phone of his girlfriend.	1,72
17. It is ok for a boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,67
19. It is ok for boy to shout at his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/ arguing.	1,66
3. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if she has been flirting with him all night.	1,63
11. It is ok for a girl to set limits on how her boyfriend dresses.	1,45
7. It is ok to threaten to leave a partner in order to achieve something you want.	1,41
16. It is ok or a girl to hit her boyfriend if he is constantly nagging/ arguing.	1,29
22. Threatening to hit a partner is ok as long as you don't actually hit	1,17
10. It is ok for a girl to insult her boyfriend in front of others.	1,08
8. It is ok for a boy to push a girl into having sex if he has spent a lot of money on her.	1,07
2. It is ok for a boy hit his girlfriend if she has been unfaithful.	1,05
20. It is ok for a boy to hit his girlfriend if she is constantly nagging/ arguing.	1,04
14. It is ok for boy to hit his girlfriend if she is not treating him with respect.	1,02
5. It is ok for a boy to insult his girlfriend in front of others.	1,02

Table 55: Reasons of violence (boys)

	Boys
	Mean
1. ...of alcohol or drug use	2,79
14. ... they consider themselves superior to women	2,63
7. ...they want to control women	2,56
13. they have mental problems	2,51
12. they are jealous	2,48
15. ... they cannot control their anger	2,48
10. ... no one stops them	2,48
6. ...they are physically stronger than women	2,47
4. ...women provoke them	2,35
3. ...they can't control their sexual urges	2,31
9. ...they were abused as children	2,30
11. ... they are naturally aggressive	2,24
8. ... they are under stress	2,13
2. ...they misunderstand women	2,07
20. ... they can't take 'no' for answer	1,90
5. ...women are not patient or tender enough with them	1,85
17. ... women like it	1,45
16. society expects them to	1,41
18. that makes them attractive to women	1,33
19. ... it is necessary	1,29

Table 56: Reasons of violence (girls)

	Girls
	Mean
1. ...of alcohol or drug use	3,00
6. ...they are physically stronger than women	2,93
7. ...they want to control women	2,92
14. ... they consider themselves superior to women	2,89
15. ... they cannot control their anger	2,73
13. they have mental problems	2,68
12. they are jealous	2,67
10. ... no one stops them	2,61
9. ...they were abused as children	2,53
3. ...they can't control their sexual urges	2,45
11. ... they are naturally aggressive	2,33
4. ...women provoke them	2,16
20. ... they can't take 'no' for answer	2,11
2. ...they misunderstand women	2,05
8. ... they are under stress	2,00
5. ...women are not patient or tender enough with them	1,61
16. society expects them to	1,26
17. ... women like it	1,17
18. that makes them attractive to women	1,11
19. ... it is necessary	1,10

Table 57: Other specified reasons of violence (boys)

Statement	Frequency
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1. Alcohol and woman's foolishness	1
2. If one or another is stressed	1
3. They want to show their male ego	1
4. They are tired of the monotony	1
5. They like do this	1
6. They are missing fighting	1
7. Women do not manage homes	1
8. Woman is unfaithful	1
9. Woman makes him nervous	1
10. Women cannot be beat	1
11. Because they are not at the kitchen	3
12. Because they do not prepare meals	1
13. Because they prepare meals badly	1
14. Do not have other activity	1
15. Want to prove their manhood	1
16. Want to show their abilities	1
17. Want to have sex	1
18. Only morons can beat women	1
19. Have little pride	1

Table 58: Other specified reasons of violence (girls).

Statement	Frequency
1. Is it normal for a boy to heat a girl if she does not want to have sexual relationships with him?	1
2. Want to draw attention, frighten	1
3. Trying to compensate for their inferiority	1
4. If girl do not agree with boy	1
5. They cannot sexually satisfy their girlfriend and hit her for the more self-confidence	1
6. They do not respect women	1
7. They want women to be their slaves	1
8. They want to seem tough	1
9. They want to control the situation	1
10. They are spados	1
11. If saw how father was heating mother	1
12. Woman was unfaithful	1
13. Women do not obey them	1
14. because they do not understand what they are doing	1
15. Because they have mental problems	1
16. No place to vent their aggression/ failure at work	1
17. Want to prove their truth	1
18. Seek for an attention	1
19. Want to show something, that they are tough	1
20. Alcohol problems	1

Table 59: Attitude towards knowledge and myths (boys)

	Boys
	Mean
18. Most women are concerned about whether men like them.	3,36
11. If a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship.	3,17
2. If a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her.	3,00
13. Sometimes girls provoke sexual aggression by boys because of the way they are dressed.	2,79
8. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) rarely happens among highly educated people.	2,67
17. Women name things as «sexual harassment» when in reality, they are only simple jokes.	2,66
9. Financial difficulties are the most common reason for problems that involve violence in relationships.	2,60
19. A girl who has had many sexual partners deserves to be gossiped about.	2,58
10. Women are more likely to be sexually abused by a stranger than someone they know	2,53
3. Sometimes it helps a relationship if partners make each other jealous on purpose.	2,47
12. Sometimes girls are to blame when their partners hit them.	2,44
4. When a girl says ‘no’ to her partner’s sexual advances this often means ‘yes’.	2,23
1. Most of the time hitting and shouting happen in grown-up relationships and rarely in adolescent relationships.	2,13
15. Just slapping or pushing your partner isn’t a form of violence.	2,11
6. Whatever happens between married couples is a personal matter	2,07

and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	
14. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) most commonly happens among immigrant communities.	2,06
5. Women are just as likely to be violent toward their partners as men.	2,06
7. Whatever happens between dating partners is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1,97
16. Men hit women simply because they love them.	1,61

Table 60: Attitude towards knowledge and myths (girls)

	Girls
	Mean
18. Most women are concerned about whether men like them.	3,40
11. If a person is being abused, they could just exit the relationship.	3,36
2. If a boy gets really jealous about his girlfriend it proves that he really cares for her.	2,95
13. Sometimes girls provoke sexual aggression by boys because of the way they are dressed.	2,72
3. Sometimes it helps a relationship if partners make each other jealous on purpose.	2,71
9. Financial difficulties are the most common reason for problems that involve violence in relationships.	2,52
19. A girl who has had many sexual partners deserves to be gossiped about.	2,50
8. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) rarely happens among highly educated people.	2,48
10. Women are more likely to be sexually abused by a stranger than	2,42

someone they know	
12. Sometimes girls are to blame when their partners hit them.	2,25
17. Women name things as «sexual harassment» when in reality, they are only simple jokes.	2,14
1. Most of the time hitting and shouting happen in grown-up relationships and rarely in adolescent relationships.	2,00
15. Just slapping or pushing your partner isn't a form of violence.	1,92
14. Violence in relationships (e.g. hitting, pushing, and constant shouting) most commonly happens among immigrant communities.	1,88
5. Women are just as likely to be violent toward their partners as men.	1,88
4. When a girl says 'no' to her partner's sexual advances this often means 'yes'.	1,81
6. Whatever happens between married couples is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1,79
7. Whatever happens between dating partners is a personal matter and other people should not interfere even if hitting or threatening is involved.	1,74
16. Men hit women simply because they love them.	1,18