



The Scenario

India has 243 million adolescents, the largest in the world



As a demographic, they hardly have any agency or even visibility



Improved gender equity among this group can help improve development determinants like education and access to health

तारों की टोली



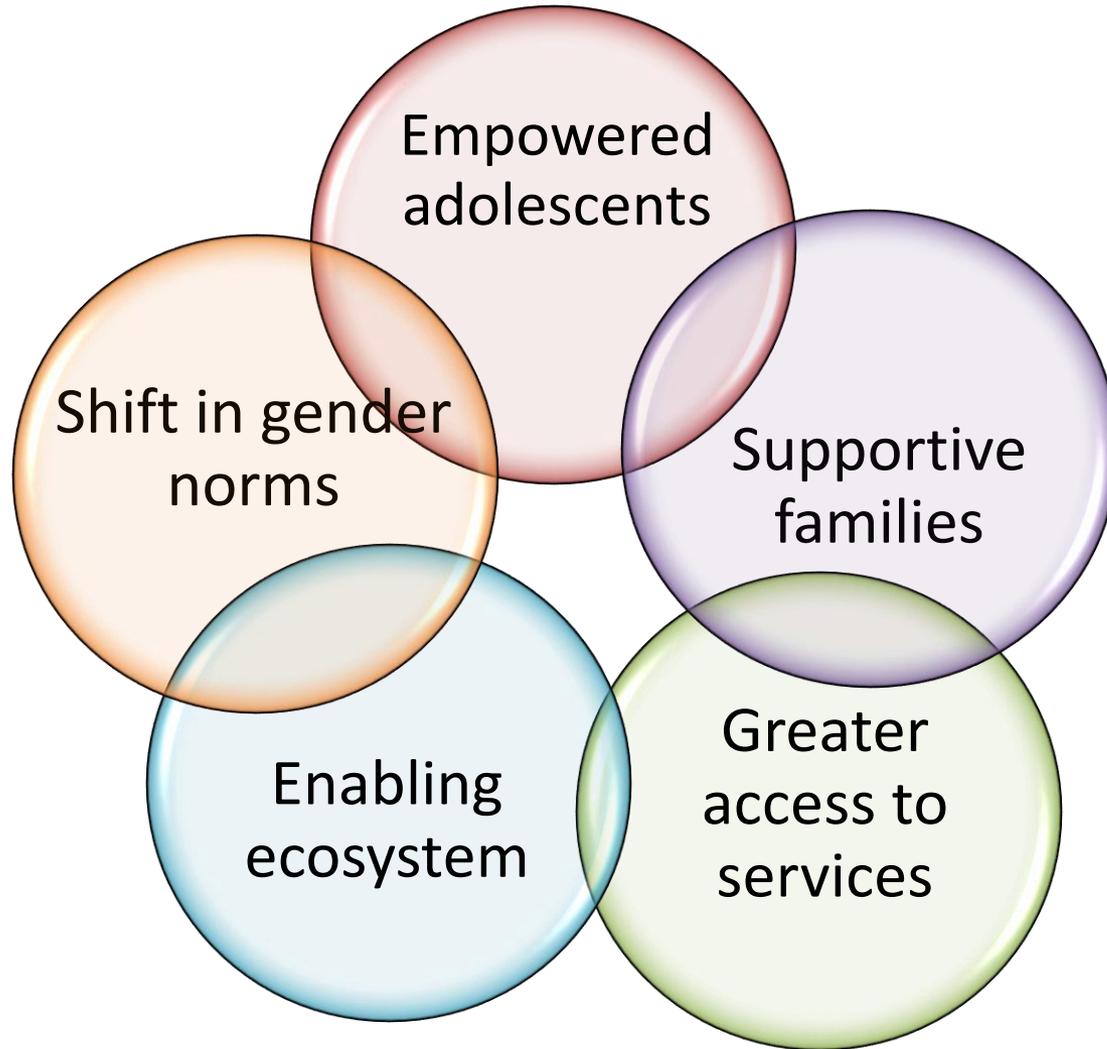
Taron ki Toli: Gang of Stars

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What we aim for



School Intervention on gender equality and rights

- Club based intervention in 150 schools with nearly 18000 adolescents.
- Intervention site– Sonipat, Panipat, Jhajjar and Rohtak.
- Time Period : 2014- 2016
- Address classes VI to IX students both boys & girls.





Taaro Ki Toli Partners



- Government Partner: Department of Education, Govt. of Haryana
- Implementation agency & Technical Expert : Breakthrough
- Research Partner : JPAL
- Implementation partners in 5 districts of Punjab and 7 districts of Haryana: Save the Children and Pratham





Process Followed

Context, need, intervention strategies discussed and sharing of best practices worldwide on adolescent empowerment

MOU Situational analysis, field visit & baseline for short listing the indicators

Design of program roll out ; creation of messages and tools of engagement in school and community

Orientation/ TOT of teams on Gender, Sexuality and Rights.

Orientation of teachers on the programme, knowledge & awareness on law and services for adolescents



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Establishment of adolescent clubs in schools



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breakthrough

The Curriculum In Schools

32 in-classroom sessions using interactive games, activities from classes VI to IX

12 assembly sessions using media, arts and tech

Enables girls and boys to identify their strengths; build interpersonal skills ; and take community action.

1 teacher per class trained as “Guiding Star” to support adolescent empowerment.



The Curriculum Architecture



Builds self-confidence,
Identifies aspirations,
Enhances self-worth

Helps adolescents to
identify their rights –
education, health,
violence-free life,
leisure, mobility etc.



Addresses gender
based stereotypes,
discrimination, roles in
the family and the
impact on girls.

The curriculum
addresses verbal,
emotional, physical
violence and sexual
harassment

It also helps to create
safer spaces with
support from peers,
parents, and other
stakeholders

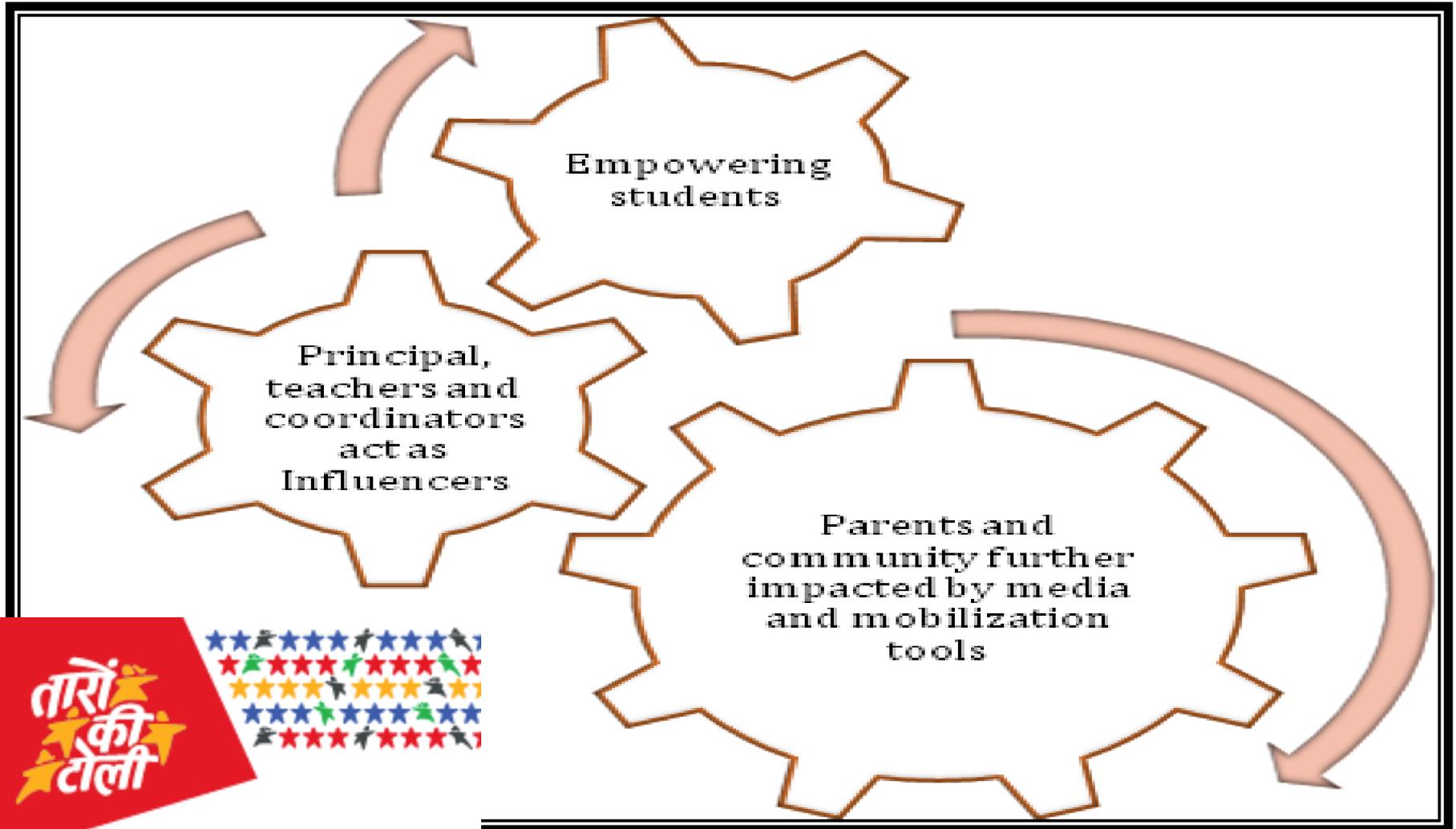
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Community Mobilization



How the strategy works



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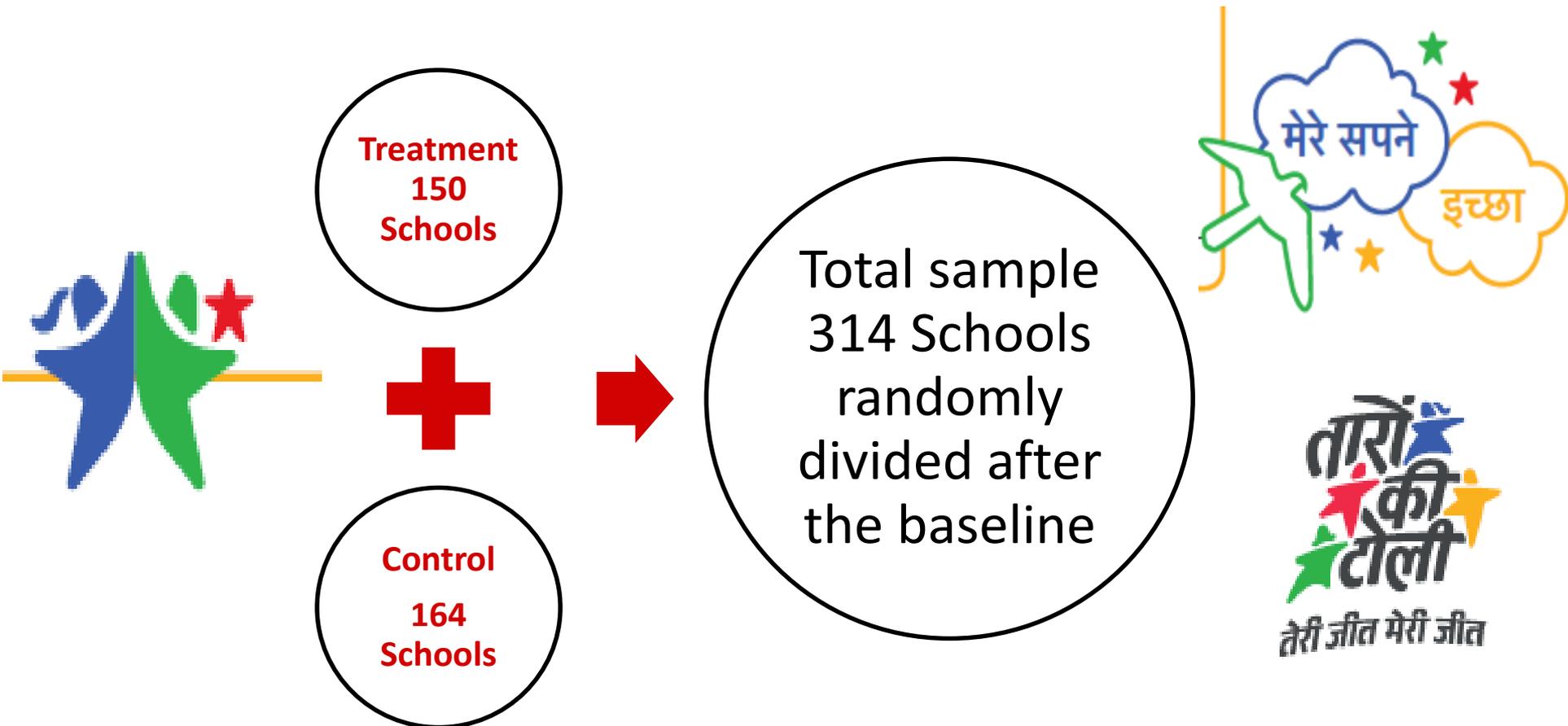
The Impact Evaluation

Done by: J-PAL



The Study Design:

- ◆ 4 districts of Haryana
- ◆ 314 government schools (secondary and senior secondary)



The Objective of the Evaluation



- **Behavior Change**

Does attitudinal change translate into behavior change – school attendance and dropout, academic performance, mobility etc?

- **Variation in impact**

Does the intervention have a different impact on male and female participants?
Is there a variation in impact by parental attitudes?

- **Impact on gender attitudes**

What is the impact of the school-based gender awareness and attitude change intervention on attitudes and aspirations?

- **Cost Effectiveness**

Is this intervention a cost effective method of addressing the gender inequality problem in Haryana?



Data Collection



- Extensive pilot in all 4 districts to finalise the questionnaire
- Baseline in Winter 2013
 - Surveyed 14,810 students and 5,483 parents
 - Enrolled students in grades 6 and 7 | Intervention from April 2014 to September 2016
- Endline in Winter 2016-17
 - Surveyed same 13,989 students (in grades 9 and 10 at the time)
 - 94.2% retention rate



Three pre-specified primary outcomes



- Gender attitude index
 - Eighteen questions on attitudes towards gender-equality in education, employment, gender roles and fertility
- Gender aspirations index:
 - Five questions capturing expectations on academic performance, educational goals and occupation
- Gender behavior index:
 - Twelve questions capturing communications and interaction with other gender, chores within and outside household, communication with parents, decision making and school attendance



Gender Attitudes Index (Examples)



- Wives should be less educated than their husbands (edu)
- It would be a good idea to elect a woman as the village Sarpanch (gender roles)
- Boys should be allowed to get more opportunities and resources for education than girls (edu)
- A man should have the final word about decisions in his home (gender roles)
- A woman should tolerate violence in order to keep her family together (gender roles)
- Men are better suited than women to work outside of the house (emp)
- Daughters should have a similar right to inherited property as sons (gender roles)
- Education Vignette: If you were the head of the family whom would you have sent to the town for further studies? (edu)
- Work Vignette: Marriage is more important for Pooja than her job (emp)



Gender Aspirations Index



- Have you ever discussed your education goals with your parents or adult relatives?
- What is the highest level of education you would like to complete if finances and opportunity of the school/college are available?
- What occupation do you expect to have when you are 25 years old?
- Suppose you were to get married right after school, would you want to continue your education after marriage?
- How many marks, according to you, will you score in the SSE 10th board examinations?



Gender Behaviour Index

- Hypothesis is that the intervention increased gender-equitable behaviour among students in the treatment schools.
 - That students are more comfortable with and interact more with the opposite gender
 - Girls have more autonomy and engage in fewer traditional household-work activities
 - Boys engage in less gender-discriminatory actions
 - Both genders encourage girls/women in their lives to have progressive actions/aspirations.
- A number of questions that capture behaviours of the children together form this index.



Gender Behaviour Index (Examples)



- Are you comfortable talking to children of the opposite gender who are not related to you inside and outside school?
- How frequently have you been teased, whistled at or called names?
- In the past one week, did you... cook/clean/wash dishes, take care of young siblings/old people in the household, and went shopping for household provisions/paid bills?
- During last week how many days were you absent from school?
- In the past month, have you missed school due to household based responsibilities?



Gender Behaviour Index (Contd.)

- I am able to talk to my parents about what work I would like to do in the future
- Who mostly makes/will make decisions about the following for you (you, your parents, jointly)?
 - Continue school past 10th grade
 - If you will work after you finish your studies
 - What type of work you will do after you finish your studies
 - What types of chores you do at home (for example, cooking, cleaning dishes, taking care of your siblings)



The Results



increases gender attitude index significantly both among boys & girls

Increases gender equitable behaviour index, specially among boys, significantly



लड़का या लड़की वह दोनो ही बहुत ही बलवान होते हैं, शक्तिमान होते हैं, कोई किसी से कम नहीं, कोई किसी से कमज़ोर नहीं।

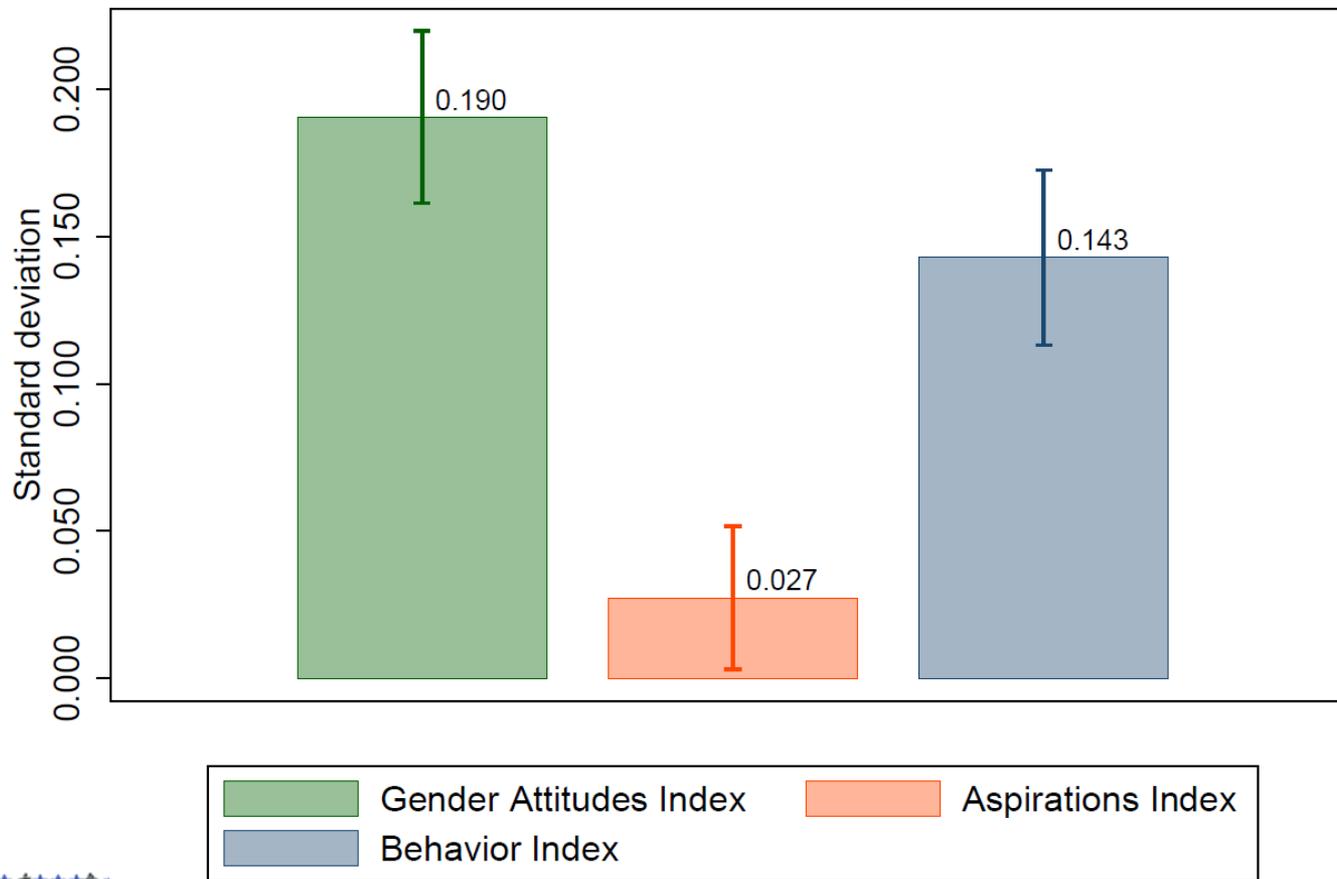


No significant robust increase in aspirations index among girls



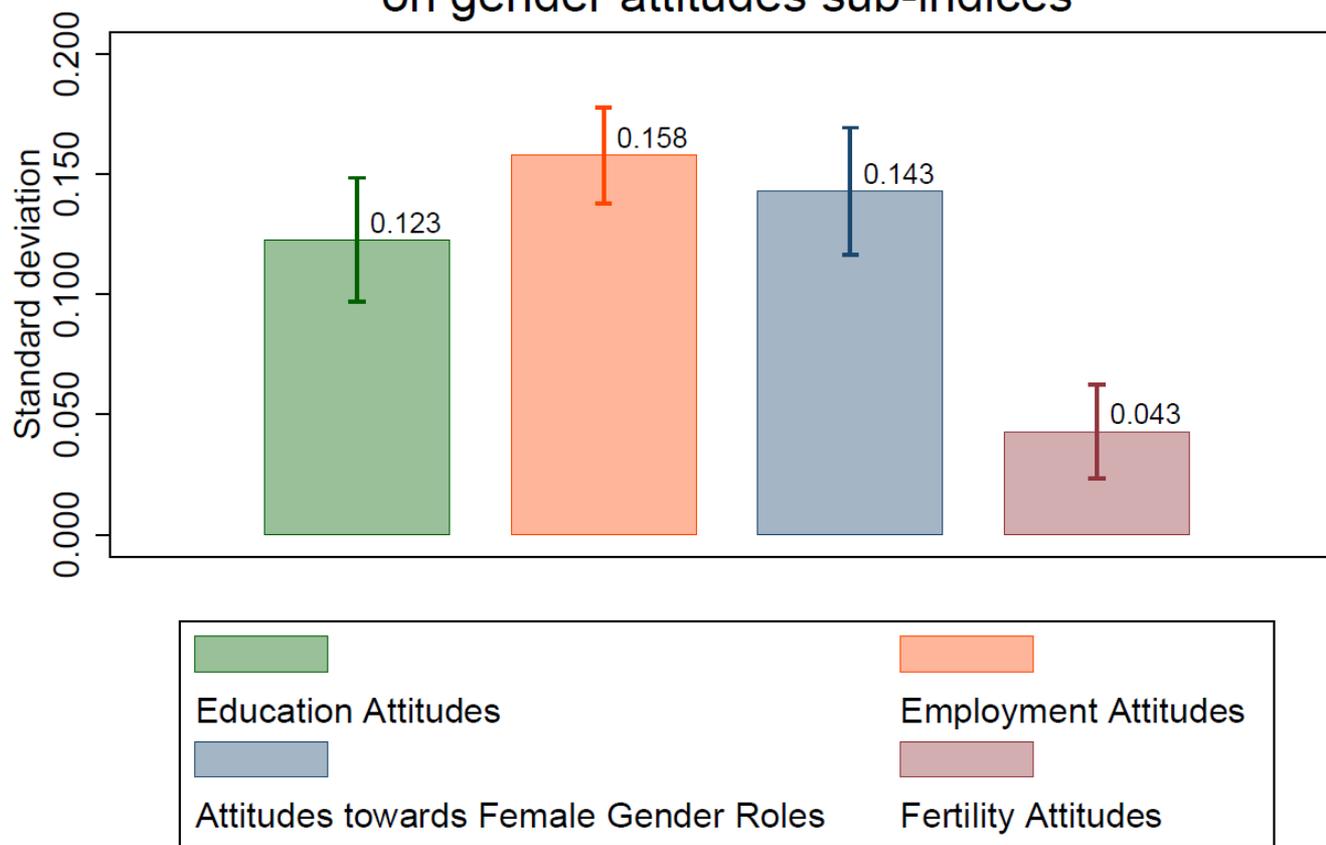
Main findings

Effect of gender attitude change intervention

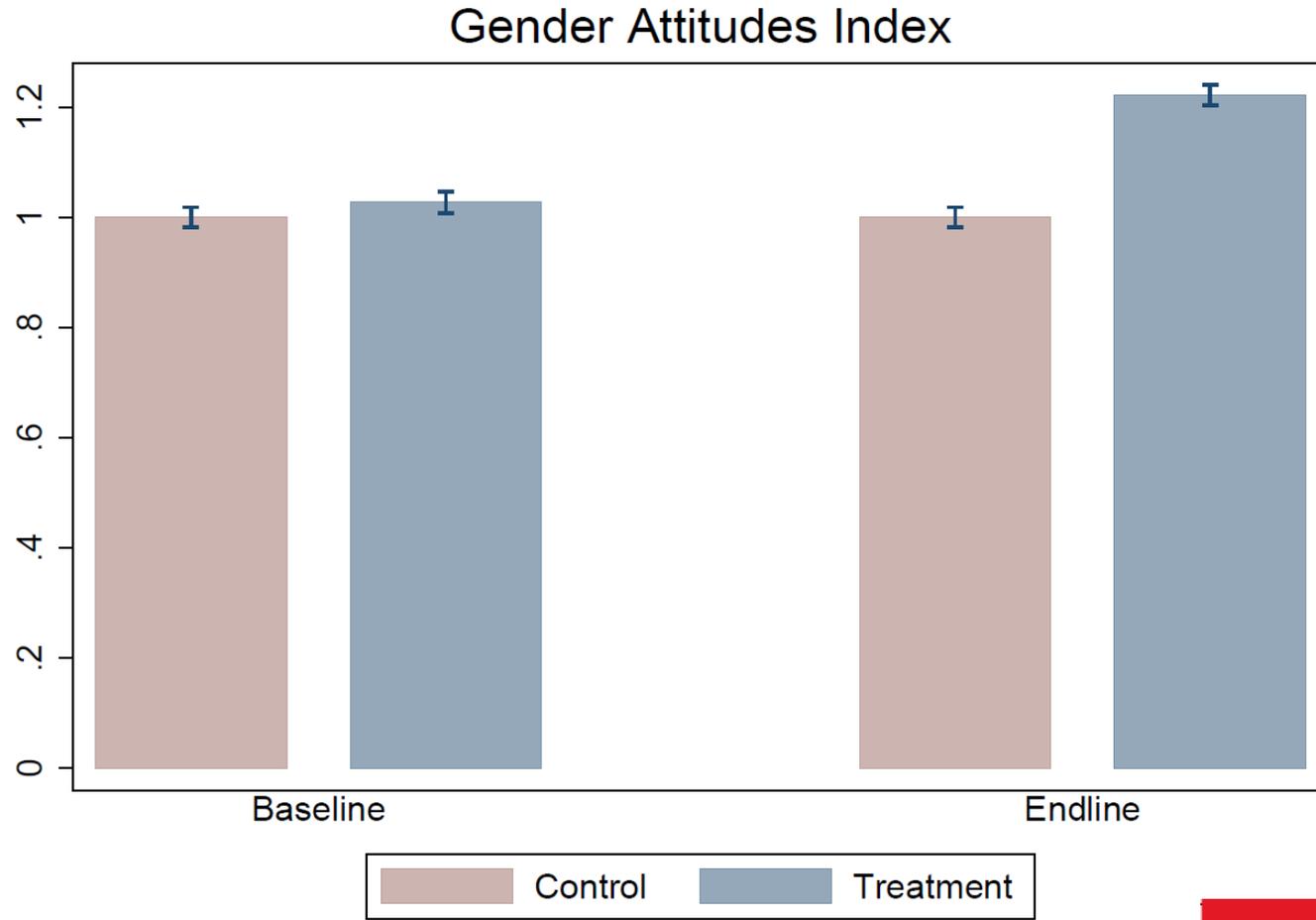


Effects on attitude sub-indices

Effect of gender attitude change intervention on gender attitudes sub-indices



Gender Attitude Index



Results from a Randomized Impact Evaluation
of a Gender Attitude Change Program in
Haryana



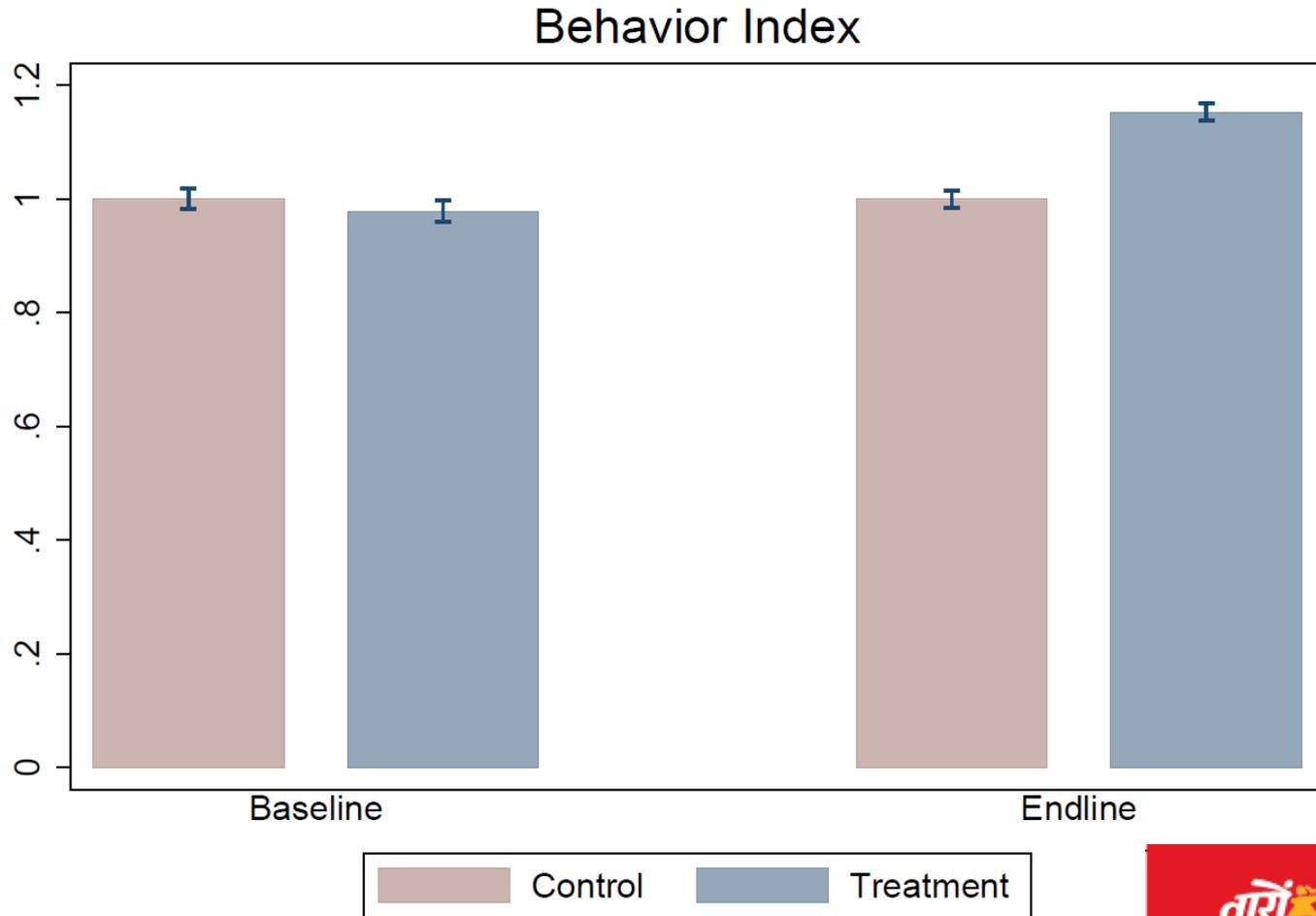
Benchmarking effect sizes



- Gender attitudes can also be impacted by other observable factors
 - being a female and
 - parent gender attitudes.
- To put the impacts of the Breakthrough intervention in context
 - being a girl increases the gender attitudes index by 0.577 standard deviations
 - treatment effect is one third of the effect of the respondent's gender
- Intervention effects are comparable to the effect of growing up with parents with typical gender attitudes instead of parents with very gender-discriminatory attitudes
 - specifically attitudes that place them at the bottom 20% of all parents



Gender Behavior Index

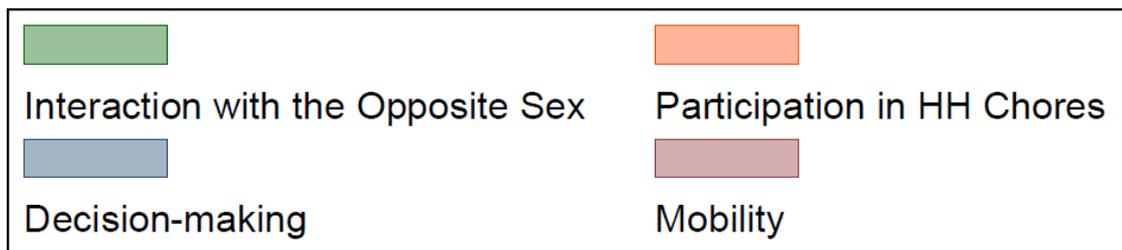
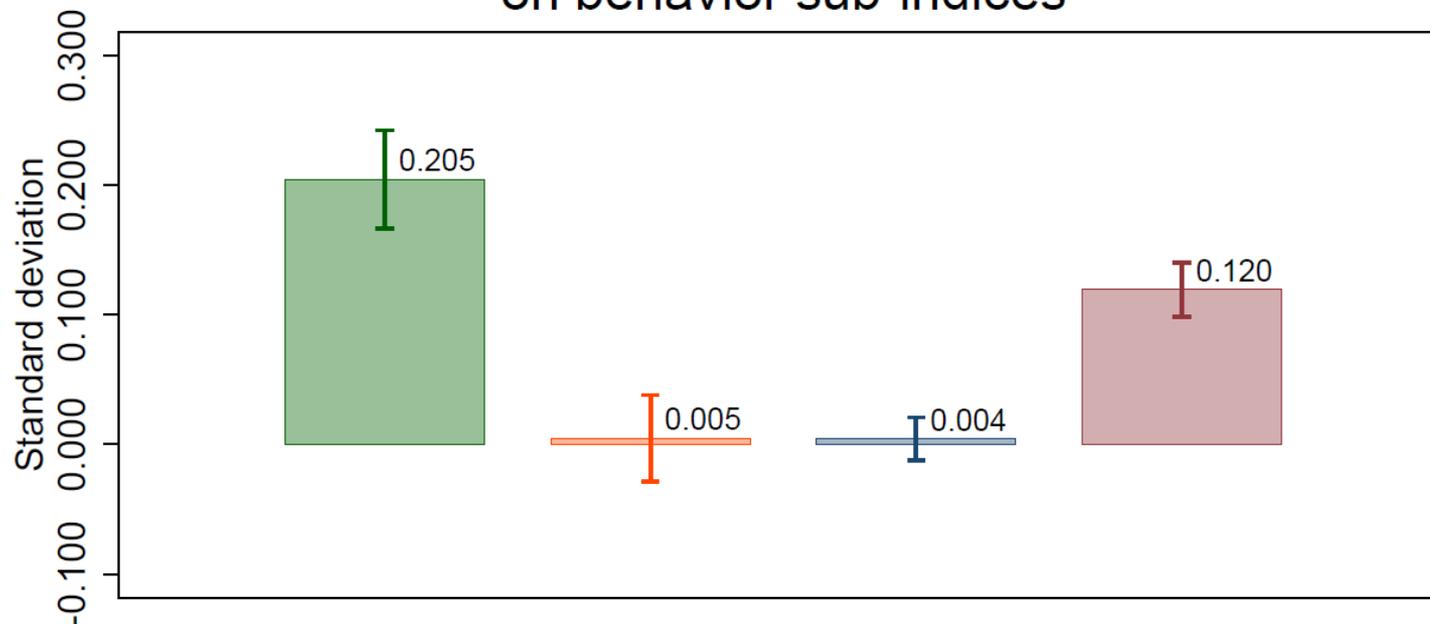


Results from a Randomized Impact Evaluation
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Effects on behavior sub-indices

Effect of gender attitude change intervention on behavior sub-indices



Results from a Randomized Impact Evaluation
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Work in progress



- Cost effectiveness analysis
- Behavioral games in schools
- Planned long-term follow-up surveys of households
 - Completed education
 - Employment of female students and male students' wives
 - Age of marriage and childbearing
 - Sex composition of children



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The Way Forward



- ◆ Streamlining the curriculum into 42 sessions over two years
- ◆ Reaching 1.2 million adolescents over 5 years
- ◆ Adding youth leadership as a bridge between community and adolescents , also as role models
- ◆ Advocacy with state governments to include curriculum as part of mainstream syllabus for 7 and 8 grades





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